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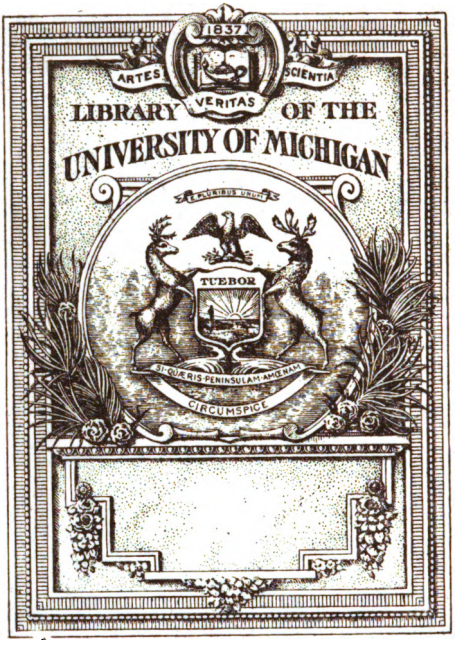

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CONSTITUTION,

BY-LAWS AND RULES OF ORDER,

PENAL CODE, EDICTS AND DECISIONS,

CEREMONIES AND FORMS

OF THE

GRAND CHAPTER OF R. A. M.

OF THE

STATE OF MICHIGAN.

ADOPTED

JANUARY 17, 1900.

ALSO

CONSTITUTION, EDICTS AND DECISIONS

OF THE

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER

OF THE

UNITED STATES.

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CONSTITUTION

OF THE

Grand Chapter of R. A. Masons

OF THE

STATE OF MICHIGAN.

ARTICLE I.

ORGANIZATION.

SECTION 1. Name and style of Grand Chapter.
2. Grand Chapter, of whom to consist.
3. Quorum—what constitutes a—
4. Annual convocation, when and where held.
5. Election of officers.
6. Who entitled to vote.
7. Majority governs, unless otherwise ordered.
8. Grand Council, who composes.

SECTION 1. The name and style of this Grand Chapter shall be the "Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Michigan."

SEC. 2. The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of

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the State of Michigan shall consist of a Grand High Priest, a Deputy Grand High Priest, a Grand King, a Grand Scribe, a Grand Treasurer, a Grand Secretary, a Grand Chaplain, a Grand Captain of the Host, a Grand Principal Sojourner, a Grand Royal Arch Captain, a Grand Lecturer, a Grand Master of the Third Veil, a Grand Master of the Second Veil, a Grand Master of the First Veil and a Grand Sentinel, together with all Past Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes, and all High Priests, Kings and Scribes of the several subordinate chapters within the State of Michigan, or their proxies, duly empowered; also, all Past High Priests who have presided one year over regularly constituted chapters in this state: *Provided*, That when one ceases to be a member of a subordinate chapter he thereby forfeits his membership in this Grand Chapter so long as he remains non-affiliated.

SEC. 3. This Grand Chapter shall not be open for business unless there be present a representation from a majority of the subordinate chapters.

SEC. 4. The annual convocation of this Grand Chapter shall be held at Detroit, *unless otherwise ordered*, on the third Tuesday in January of each year, at 12 o'clock, noon, at which convocation the Grand Officers shall be elected and installed: *Provided, That no officer can be installed by proxy*. Special convocations may be called by the Grand High Priest whenever in his judgment the interests of the craft may require.

SEC. 5. At each annual convocation of the Grand Chapter, the officers of the Grand Chapter shall be elected by ballot, to hold their offices until the next annual convocation, and until their successors shall have been duly elected and installed.

SEC. 6. In all elections and on all questions before the Grand Chapter, in which the yeas and nays may have been ordered, each chapter shall be entitled to three votes. Every other member to one vote, except Grand Sentinel,

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SEC. 7. In all elections and on all questions before the Grand Chapter, the majority of votes shall govern, unless otherwise herein provided for.

SEC. 8. The Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King and Grand Scribe shall compose the Grand Council. In case of the absence, death or disability of the Grand High Priest, the Deputy Grand High Priest shall succeed him in the performance of his duties.

ARTICLE II.

CREDENTIALS.

SECTION 1. High Priest, etc., Proxy of.
2. In case of death, etc., who may represent.

SECTION 1. The credentials of a companion acting as proxy for a High Priest, King or Scribe, must be in writing, signed by the one giving them, and shall only be given to a companion of the same chapter.

SEC. 2. In case of the death, absence or inability of a constitutional representative of a chapter, said chapter may authorize one of its other members to represent said officer of the chapter in the Grand Chapter, by a resolution reciting such death, absence or inability, certified by the Secretary under the seal of the chapter.

ARTICLE III.

QUALIFICATIONS OF GRAND OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. Grand Officers, from whom chosen.
2. Offices vacated by removing from state, etc.

SECTION 1. The Grand Officers shall be chosen from the members of subordinate chapters, but no companion is eligible to an office of higher rank than he may have attained in his chapter.

SEC. 2. Any Grand Officer who shall, during the term

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for which he was chosen, remove from this state or cease to be a member of a subordinate chapter therein, thereby vacates his office, except the charter of such subordinate chapter has been arrested.

ARTICLE IV.

POWERS OF GRAND CHAPTER.

SECTION 1. Grand Chapter, highest authority.
2. Mode of creating new chapters.
3. Grand High Priest may grant letters of dispensation.
4. Sum to be paid for dispensation.
5. Officers granting dispensation must report.
6. Dispensation for Lodges of Mark Masters, etc.
7. Grand Chapter may punish.
8. Grand Chapter has appellate jurisdiction.
9. Has power to enact general law.
10. Has power to define and establish location, etc.

SECTION 1. The Grand Chapter is the highest source of authority in Capitular Masonry in this jurisdiction, subject to the ancient landmarks, this constitution and the constitution and edicts of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America. As such it has the general government and control of all chapters of Royal Arch Masons and all lodges of Mark Master, Past Master and Most Excellent Master Masons, within the State of Michigan. It grants charters, warrants and dispensations for constituting chapters of Royal Arch Masons, and, when expedient, arrests, revokes and annuls the same. It makes, alters and repeals at pleasure, laws for its government and the government and control of its own members according to provisions of this constitution.

SEC. 2. The mode of creating new chapters is as follows: A petition in due form, signed by at least nine regular Royal Arch Masons, praying for a charter. Such petition must have the recommendation of the chapter near-

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est the place where the new chapter is proposed to be located, certifying under its seal, attested by the Secretary, that the petitioners are all Royal Arch Masons in good standing, and of good moral characters; and it shall be accompanied by the dimits of the petititioners, or in lieu thereof, by satisfactory proof of the granting of such dimits and their loss, or their equivalent. On the presentation of these papers to the Grand Chapter, it may grant a charter in its discretion.

SEC. 3. On presenting such papers in the recess of the Grand Chapter to the Grand High Priest, or, in the proper case, to the Deputy Grand High Priest, he may grant a dispensation having effect until the next convocation of the Grand Chapter. Before granting a Dispensation for a new chapter, he must have *satisfactory evidence that the proposed officers are duly qualified.*

SEC. 4. The sum of $100 must be paid on application for a charter or dispensation to organize a new chapter. In case a charter is refused by the Grand Chapter after a dispensation has been granted, ninety dollars of said money shall be returned to *petitioners.*

SEC. 5. At the ensuing convocation of the Grand Chapter, the officer granting the dispensation shall report the facts to the Grand Chapter, with all the documents relating thereto. It is the duty of a Chapter acting under a dispensation to return the same, and submit at the same convocation its record of proceedings. The Grand Chapter, in consideration of the matter, if deemed expedient, shall grant a charter or continue the dispensation.

SEC. 6. No dispensation or charter shall be granted for instituting lodges of Mark Masters, Past Masters or Most Excellent Masters independent of a chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

SEC. 7. The Grand Chapter has appellate jurisdiction over the decisions, acts and decrees of High Priests and

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subordinate chapters, and may confirm, reverse, annul or modify the same at pleasure. It may also expel, suspend or reprimand a companion or brother upon appeal from a subordinate chapter.

SEC. 8. It has power to enact general laws and regulations for the government of the several subordinate chapters under its jurisdiction, and to alter, amend or repeal the same at pleasure, subject to the provisions of this constitution.

SEC. 9. It has power to define and establish the location of the several subordinate chapters, and to determine their jurisdiction, both personal and territorial.

ARTICLE V.

POWERS OF GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

When the Grand Chapter is not in session, the Grand High Priest has power:

1. To issue dispensations, and to exercise the executive functions of the Grand Chapter.

2. To decide all questions of usage and order, or masonic law as applied to Capitular Masonry.

3. To convene any chapter or chapters of Royal Arch Masons, within this jurisdiction, or any of the Officers thereof, at such time and place as he may designate, and in person or by proxy to preside thereat, inspect the proceedings and work of the same, and to require a strict compliance with the laws, rules and regulations of Capitular Masonry in this state.

4. To issue his dispensation to any regular Royal Arch Chapter within this jurisdiction to confer any of the chapter degrees of Masonry without delay: *Provided*, There be a regular petition for the degrees, notice to all the members of said chapter within its jurisdiction, and a clear ballot.

5. To arrest the charter or suspend the High Priest of any chapter within this jurisdiction, until the next meeting of the Grand Chapter, and revoke the order at pleasure.

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6. To command every officer of the Grand Chapter, and to call upon them for information, advice or assistance, or for anything else relating to the Royal Craft.

7. In person or by proxy to constitute chapters and install the officers thereof.

8. To fill all vacancies which may occur in the offices of the Grand Chapter, until the next annual convocation.

ARTICLE VI.

DUTIES OF GRAND OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. Who to preside over meetings of Grand Chapter.
2. In the absence of Grand High Priest, who presides.
3. Grand Lecturer.
4. Grand High Priest appoints committees.
5. Shall communicate to Grand Chapters.
6. Appoints a Committee on Foreign Correspondence.
7. Deputy Grand High Priest shall report.
8. Grand Treasurer.
9. Grand Secretary.
10. Duties of the other Grand Officers.
11. Other Duties of Grand Officers.

SECTION 1. The Grand High Priest, if present, shall have the right to preside at all meetings of the Grand Chapter; in case of his absence or disability, the Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King or Grand Scribe, in the order here named, and, in the absence of all these, the oldest Past Grand High Priest present shall fill the chair.

SEC. 2. In case of death, absence or inability of the Grand High Priest, the powers and duties of his station shall devolve upon the Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King or Grand Scribe, in the order here named.

SEC. 3. The Grand Lecturer shall thoroughly acquaint himself with the work and lectures of the degrees of Capitular Masonry according to the standard of this Grand Chapter; shall visit the several chapters in this jurisdiction as

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extensively as possible, and it shall be his duty to examine the work and proceedings of the chapters, and for this purpose, he is authorized to summons the officers of the different chapters, with the records, to convene at such time and place as he may select for the purpose of receiving instructions in the work, lectures and ceremonies of the Order. He shall report to the Grand High Priest in writing, any deviation in the work or lectures from the system of this Grand Chapter, and he shall have charge of teaching the work during his term of office, subject always to the Grand High Priest.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of the Grand High Priest at each annual convocation, as soon as a constitutional quorum is ascertained to be present, to appoint a Committee on Credentials. After the report of such committee, he shall appoint the following committees, each to consist of three members:

1. A Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.
2. A Committee on Charters and Dispensations.
3. A Committee on Appeals.
4. A Committee on Unfinished Business.

SEC. 5. It shall be the duty of the Grand High Priest to communicate, in writing, a statement of his official acts during the recess of the Grand Chapter. He shall also give information upon subjects of masonic interest, and recommend such measures as he may deem expedient. It shall be his duty, either personally or by proxy, to attend the sessions of the General Grand Chapter; to inspect all rooms used by newly organized chapters, and to prohibit the use of any not properly provided and protected; to examine the work of all chapters, and to arrest the charter of any chapter willfully departing from the work adopted by this Grand Chapter.

SEC. 6. Immediately after the election and installation of the officers of this Grand Chapter, the Grand High Priest, at each annual convocation, shall appoint the following committees, to consist of three companions:

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1. A Committee on Finance.
2. A Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

SEC. 7. The Deputy Grand High Priest shall report in writing any and all official acts performed by him, during the recess of the Grand Chapter.

SEC. 8. It shall be the duty of the Grand Treasurer to take charge of all the funds of the Grand Chapter; to pay out no money, except upon order of the Grand Chapter, certified by the Grand Secretary; but when the amount to be paid shall not be fixed by the Grand Chapter, the claim shall be audited and approved by the Grand High Priest; to report at each annual convocation, and oftener if required by the Grand Chapter, or the Grand High Priest, the amount of his receipts and expenditures, by items, and from whom received and to whom paid, and the amount of funds in his hands; and to execute and deposit with the Grand High Priest an official bond within thirty days after his election, payable to the Grand Chapter, in such surety bond company as may be approved by the Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King and Grand Scribe, or a majority of them, in a penalty of five thousand dollars, unless a different sum shall be fixed by the Grand Chapter, conditioned that he will pay or deliver, on demand, to the Grand Chapter, or to his successor in office, all funds of the Grand Chapter that shall come to his hands as Grand Treasurer; and if the Grand Treasurer-elect shall fail or refuse to execute a bond as herein required, then the Grand High Priest shall appoint another Grand Treasurer, who shall execute the required bond. The premium on said bond to be paid by the Grand Chapter.

SEC. 9. It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to record the transactions of the Grand Chapter; to receive, duly file and safely keep all papers and documents of the Grand Chapter; to prepare, sign and certify all charters,

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dispensations and other instruments emanating from the Grand Chapter, and when necessary affix its seal thereto; to receive and keep a proper account of all moneys of the Grand Chapter, and pay over the same to the Grand Treasurer; to report to each annual convocation, and oftener, if required by the Grand Chapter, or the Grand High Priest, the amount of moneys received by him, by items, and the specific sources from which received; also the subordinate chapters that have neglected to render proper returns, and are in arrears; and such general information as to the state of the chapters in this jurisdiction, as may be proper for the information or action of the Grand Chapter; to conduct the correspondence of the Grand Chapter; to attend, with all necessary books and papers under his control, on all convocations of the Grand Chapter; to execute and deposit with the Grand High Priest an official bond within thirty days after his election, payable to the Grand Chapter, in such surety company as may be approved by the Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King and Grand Scribe, or a majority of them, in the penalty of five thousand dollars, unless a different sum shall be fixed by the Grand Chapter, conditioned that he will promptly pay over or deliver to the Grand Treasurer, or properly account for, all funds or other property of the Grand Chapter that may come to his hands as Grand Secretary; and if the Grand Secretary-elect shall fail or refuse to execute such bond as herein required, then the Grand High Priest shall appoint another Grand Secretary, who shall execute the required bond; the premium on said bond to be paid for by the Grand Chapter.

SEC. 10. It shall be the duty of the other Grand Officers to perform such duties as by ancient usage pertain to their respective offices.

SEC. 11. It shall be the duty of all Grand Officers to perform such other duties appertaining to their respective offices, in conformity with this constitution, as shall from time to time be required by the Grand Chapter or Grand High Priest.

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ARTICLE VII.

COMPENSATION OF GRAND OFFICERS AND OTHER MEMBERS.

SECTION 1. *Per Diem* and Mileage.
2. Grand High Priest, etc; other fees.

SECTION 1. The Grand Officers, Past Grand High Priests and two representatives of each subordinate chapter, shall each receive three dollars *per diem*, for each days actual attendance upon all convocation of the Grand Chapter, and six cents a mile in the Lower Peninsula and eight cents in the Upper Peninsula, one way, the usual route traveled to the place of meeting of the Grand Chapter: *Provided*, That representatives shall not receive a greater amount than the chapter which they represent shall have paid to the Grand chapter for that year, unless the same shall have been remitted.

SEC. 2. In addition to the above, the Grand High Priest and other Grand Officers, acting in compliance with the provisions of this constitution, not herein otherwise provided for, shall receive such sums for their actual expenses, as the Grand Chapter from time to time may determine. The Grand Secretary and Grand Lecturer shall receive such compensation as the Grand Chapter may, in its judgment, provide, and the Grand Sentinel twenty-five dollars unless otherwise ordered by the Grand Chapter.

ARTICLE VIII.

OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

SECTION 1. Subordinate chapters, who compose.
2. Election of officers.
3. Installation of officers.
4. Constituting new chapters, etc.
5. Chapters under dispensation.
6. Who eligible to office.
7. On the dissolution of chapters.
8. Forfeit of charter.
9. Regular convocation closed.

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10. Profane swearing and intemperance.
11. Subordinate chapters may discipline.
12. Chapters must have a seal.
13. Fees for chapter degrees.
14. Meeting of chapters, when.
15. Powers and duties of officers.
16. Who entitled to vote at elections.
17. Chapters may change location.
18. Subordinate chapters may make by-laws.
19. Grand Chapter dues.
20. Financial year, when it terminates.
21. Charters, how surrendered.
22. Charters may be restored.
23. Chapters must be constituted.

SEC. 1. A Royal Arch Chapter shall consist of a High Priest, King, Scribe, Treasurer and Secretary, Captain of the Host, Principal Sojourner, Royal Arch Captain, Master of the 3rd Veil, Master of the 2nd Veil, Master of the 1st Veil, Sentinel, and the remaining members of said chapter. No chapter shall be opened unless there be present nine regular Royal Arch Masons.

SEC. 2. The election of officers shall be by ballot, and shall take place at the regular meeting next preceding the festival of St. John, the Evangelist, in each year, except in the following cases: 1st. The chapters in the Upper Peninsula may hold their election in the month of November. 2d. New chapters may elect their officers as soon as practicable after receiving their charter.

SEC. 3. The officers of all but newly chartered chapters may be installed by any present or Past High Priest, and said officers shall be installed on or before St. John's Day, Dec. 27. No officer shall perform any duty of the office to which he may be elected until he has been installed.

SEC. 4. New chapters shall be duly constituted and the officers duly installed by the Grand High Priest or his proxy, being a present or Past High Priest, before any other business can be done.

SEC. 5. Chapters working under a dispensation shall

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not transact any business except that clearly expressed in the dispensation creating them, and shall always be governed by the constitution and edicts of this Grand Chapter, and the ancient landmarks applicable to Capitular Masonry.

SEC. 6. Any member of a chapter in good and regular standing is eligible to the office of High Priest of said chapter.

SEC. 7. On the dissolution of a chapter, or the revocation of its charter, its property shall become the property of the Grand Chapter.

SEC. 8. A chapter failing to open for one year, or to make returns to the Grand Chapter for two years and pay its Grand Chapter dues, forfeits its charter thereby.

SEC. 9. Every regular convocation of a subordinate chapter must be duly closed, and all business is to be transacted in open chapter.

SEC. 10. Subordinate chapters shall hold to a strict account all members who may be guilty of intemperance or profane swearing.

SEC. 11. Subordinate chapters have the power to discipline their own members, and all Royal Arch Masons residing in their jurisdiction, as well as those who have taken any of the Capitular degrees; and may, after due notice and trial, expel, suspend or reprimand for cause. But no brother or companion Royal Arch Mason shall be suspended or expelled without a two-thirds vote of all the members present at the time of taking the vote. On appeal to the Grand Chapter, the Secretary shall transmit to the Grand Secretary a true copy of the charges and all the proceedings in the case.

SEC. 12. Every chartered chapter shall have a seal with the name and number engraved thereon, an impression of which shall be deposited with the Grand Secretary.

SEC. 13. The fees for the chapter degrees shall not be

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less than $25, and must be paid before the degrees are conferred.

SEC. 14. The meetings of the subordinate chapters shall be regular and special, but no chapter shall hold more than one regular convocation in each lunar month, provided that regulars may be held on the festivals of the Saints John, except when they fall on Sunday; other regular convocations shall be fixed by the by-laws of the chapter. Special meetings may be called in the discretion of the High Priest, for works trials, unfinished business and for charitable purposes. All other business shall be done at regular convocations of the chapter.

SEC. 15. The powers and duties of officers of a subordinate chapter shall conform to ancient usage, the ceremony of installation, the constitution and edicts of this Grand Chapter, and the by-laws of the respective chapters. They shall be elected as directed in section two of this article, and by a majority of votes, and shall hold their respective offices for one year and until their successors shall have been duly elected and installed.

SEC. 16. All members in good and regular standing shall be entitled to vote at all elections.

SEC. 17. A subordinate chapter shall not change its location, whenever such change would affect its geographical jurisdiction, without the consent of the Grand Chapter. In other cases it will be sufficient to obtain the consent of the Grand High Priest merely.

SEC. 18. Subordinate chapters may make by-laws after consideration one month; and on notice given at any regular convocation, may modify or abolish any by-law at the next regular convocation, by a two-thirds vote, provided that nothing shall be done inconsistent with ancient usage, this constitution, or the edicts of this Grand Chapter.

SEC. 19. Each subordinate chapter shall pay to the Grand Chapter the following sum: For each member exalted within the year, two dollars; for each member (sus-

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pended members, members whose dues may be remitted for charitable considerations, Secretary, or such as are borne on the rolls of the chapter as emerited members over seventy years of age, and those exalted within the year excepted), fifty cents.

Provided, That chapters working under dispensation shall not be required to pay membership dues, except the dispensation be carried beyond the first meeting of the Grand Chapter.

SEC. 20. The financial year shall terminate on the 27th day of December, and it is made the imperative duty of the High Priest of each subordinate chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, to cause the returns of such chapter for the year to be made out, properly attested and within ten days thereafter to be transmitted to the Grand Secretary, together with their Grand Chapter dues, and when a chapter fails to comply with the requirements of this section, the representatives of said chapter shall forfeit all compensation at the ensuing convocation of this Grand Chapter, unless a reasonable excuse shall be given for such delinquency.

SEC. 21. Any subordinate chapter may surrender its charter at any regular convocation, after due notice to all resident members, after lying over for at least one lunar month; but in all cases a two-thirds vote shall be required to effect the surrender.

SEC. 22. A chapter which has been discontinued for any cause, may have its charter restored by the Grand Chapter, on petition of not less than nine members of such chapter, and such petitioners shall constitute the membership of such chapter.

SEC. 23. Each chapter shall, previous to commencing work under its charter, be duly constituted and its officers duly installed.

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ARTICLE IX.

MEMBERSHIP IN A CHAPTER.

SECTION 1. Members, who are entitled to be.
2. Obligation to be taken.
3. Members shall pay dues.
4. Affiliation, where made.
5. A companion, when and where a member.
6. Dimits, how granted.
7. Renewal of membership, how done.

SECTION 1. No one shall be admitted a member or visitor unless he shall have regularly taken the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch, and not then exceptby the unanimous consent of all the members present, after strict examination or lawful information, he shall have been found otherwise worthy: provided that nothing in this section shall exclude Mark Masters, Past Masters and Most Excellent Masters from the right to visit a chapter while working upon any degree to which they may have have attained.

Provided, Companions from without the jurisdiction of the United States who may present themselves as Royal Arch Masons, producing satisfactory evidence of having received that degree, may be given the degree of Mark Master, Past Master and Most Excellent Master, to the end that they may be headed.

SEC. 2. All officers before entering upon their duties, and all candidates on admission shall take the following obligation, to wit: "I, A. B., do solemnly promise that I will support and maintain the constitution of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Michigan, and that of the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America."

SEC. 3. Every member of a subordinate chapter neglecting to pay his dues for two years, upon conviction therefor after due notice and trial, shall be indefinitely suspended,

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and may be restored only on payment of his dues, and by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular convocation.

SEC. 4. A companion living in this Grand Jurisdiction is not required to affiliate with the chapter nearest his place of residence, but may be admitted a member of any chapter that will receive him in this state; provided that no one can be admitted to membership whose residence is in another state, nor can he be a member of more than one chapter at the same time.

SEC. 5. A companion is a member of the chapter conferring the Royal Arch degree upon him, unless it shall have been conferred at the request of another chapter, when his membership shall be with the chapter making the request. But no one can become a member by affiliation without accompanying his petition with a proper dimit or its equivalent, which becomes the property of the chapter admitting him. But should he be rejected, the dimit or other documentary evidence of former membership shall be returned to him. If elected the dimit shall be cancelled.

SEC. 6. No dimit shall be granted to a companion while he is a resident of the jurisdiction of the chapter to which he belongs, except for the purpose of organizing a new chapter, in which case the membership of such companion in such chapter shall not cease until lawful information has been received that the new chapter has been chartered and constituted and that the dimitted companion is one of the members thereof; or to join a concurrent chapter, his membership to cease as soon as he has consummated his membership in his new chapter; provided, a companion having removed from the jurisdiction of his chapter, and not under charges, not in arrears for dues, may be granted a dimit upon written application.

SEC. 7. Any member of the chapter against whom charges are not pending, and whose dues and indebtedness to the chapter are paid, may withdraw from membership by

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presenting a written application therefor at a regular convocation, stating his reasons therefor. The chapter may grant the request of the companion by dropping his name from the rolls, and his membership shall thereby be terminated and he shall not thereafter be considered as a Royal Arch Mason. A companion thus dropped from the rolls of a chapter shall be entitled to a certificate setting forth the the fact and the reasons therefor, which certificate shall be issued by the Secretary of the chapter, under its seal. Such person may, at his request, be restored to membership in the chapter which granted him the withdrawal certificate, at any regular convocation, by a petition, reference to a committee and unanimous ballot.

SEC. 8. If a dimitted companion desires to renew his connection with a chapter it can only be done by petition and ballot as in other cases. Should any petitioner for affiliation be rejected, he may renew his application to the same or any other chapter in this state, as he may elect, at any time.

ARTICLE X.

PETITIONS AND CANDIDATES.

SECTION 1. Must have resided six months within the jurisdiction.
2. Must lie over one lunar month.
3. Must belong to some recognized lodge.
4. Must have requisite physical qualifications.
5. Must furnish evidence of former membership.
6. Must petition to nearest chapter.
7. May apply to nearest chapter for advancement.
8. May renew application in six months.

SECTION 1. A candidate for the chapter degrees must have resided six months within the jurisdiction of the chapter where his petition is presented, except as hereinafter provided.

SEC. 2. Application in due form, recommended by two members of the chapter, must be presented at a regular

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convocation, be referred to a committee for investigation, and lie over at least one lunar month, unless such time be dispensed with by the Grand High Priest.

SEC. 3. No chapter under this jurisdiction shall receive the petition of any voluntary non-affiliated Master Mason for the degrees, or for affiliation as a Royal Arch Mason.

SEC. 4. No chapter under this jurisdiction shall confer the chapter degrees upon any Mason who has not the requisite physical qualifications which will enable him to comply with all the ceremonies of the Order; and the use of substitutes is prohibited.

SEC. 5. After a petition shall have been referred to a committee it shall not be withdrawn, if the chapter has jurisdiction and the applicant is eligible.

SEC. 6. All applications for the chapter degrees must be made by petition to the chapter nearest to the place where the candidate resides; provided that any other chapter may receive and act upon a petition, by and with the written consent, showing waiver of jurisdiction by unanimous vote and certified to under the seal of said nearest chapter; provided further, that when two or more chapters are located in the city or town, they shall exercise concurrent jurisdiction; and provided further, that any two or more chapters whose territories are contiguous, may, by mutual consent, exercise concurrent jurisdiction.

SEC. 7. A candidate having regularly received any of the chapter degrees in one chapter, on removing to another jusisdiction, may by a unamious vote of the former, present his petition for advancement and membership to the latter.

SEC. 8. Should a petitioner for the chapter degrees be rejected, he shall not again apply under six months from the time of his rejection, nor then to any other chapter than the one rejecting him, without the unanimous consent of said chapter.

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ARTICLE XI.

BALLOTING.

SECTION 1. Who can vote.
2. A single ballot for the degrees.
3. No postponement of ballot.
4. High Priest may refuse to advance.

SECTION 1. None but members in good and regular standing can vote for the conferring of degrees, or for the admission of members, and that must be by ballot, which must be inviolably secret; no one has the right to reveal the color of his ballot, neither has any one any right to question him thereon.

SEC. 2. There shall be but one ballot for the several degrees conferred in the chapter, and unless unanimously in favor of the candidate he cannot be admitted or advanced; but if only one black ball appears, the High Priest may order another ballot to avoid a possible mistake, after which, however, he must declare the result at once, whatever it may be.

SEC. 3. After a ballot has been ordered it cannot be postponed; neither can it be reconsidered; and a ballot must be had on every petition after it shall have been referred to a committee and reported; provided the chapter has jurisdiction and the applicant is eligible.

SEC. 4. Should objection be made to the advancement of a candidate after he shall have received one of the chapter degrees, it shall be the duty of the High Priest to order the companion so objecting to file wriltten charges forthwith, and the chapter shall proceed to investigate said charges, and if same shall not be proven, the degrees shall be conferred upon said companion as if no charges had been made; but should charges be proven, then the companion may be further advanced only as provided for under Section 8, Article X, of the Grand Constitution.

Provided, in case the companion making the objection shall neglect or refuse to file charges and specifications with-

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in thirty days, then in such case, the chapter may proceed to confer the degrees the same as if no objection had been made.

ARTICLE XII.

AMENDMENTS.

SECTION 1. Constitution, how amended.
2. Repeal of all previous constitutions, etc.
3. By-laws, Rules of Order, etc.

SECTION 1. Amendments to this constitution may be proposed in writing at any regular annual convocation of the Grand Chapter, and being printed with the proceedings shall lie over for consideration until the next annual convocation; if then adopted by a two-thirds vote of the Grand Chapter, by yeas and nays, they thereby become a part of this constitution.

SEC. 2. All constitutions or parts of constitutions, edicts or resolutions, and all by-laws and rules of order heretofore adopted by this Grand Chapter, inconsistent with this constitution, are hereby repealed.

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BY-LAWS AND RULES OF ORDER

OF THE

Grand Chapter of R. A. Masons

OF THE

STATE OF MICHIGAN.

RULE 1. Officers and members of the Grand Chapter must be clothed with their appropriate badges.

RULE 2. All officers who have, by vote of the Grand Chapter, received jewels, are required to wear them during their attendance on the Grand Chapter.

RULE 3. The Committees on Finance and Foreign Correspondence report at the ensuing convocation of the Grand Chapter. The duties of other committees terminate with the session, unless otherwise ordered by vote of the Grand Chapter.

Committee-men appointed at one session and required to report at a subsequent session of the Grand Chapter, shall receive the same mileage and per diem as other members, provided that they shall not be paid both as such committee-men and as representatives or otherwise.

RULE 4. The Grand High Priest appoints all special committees of three. Larger committees are appointed by the Grand Chapter unless otherwise ordered by the Grand Chapter. A list of the members is furnished by the Grand Secretary for the use of the Grand High Priest.

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RULE 5. No companion shall be permitted to sit in this Grand Chapter as a visitor, without unanimous consent.

RULE 6. All resolutions shall be reduced to writing.

RULE 7. No member shall speak more than twice upon the same subject, without permission.

RULE 8. If any member of this Grand Chapter shall be guilty of disorderly behavior, he shall, for the first offense, be called to order; for the second, reprimanded by the presiding officer; and for the third, he shall be suspended from a seat in this Grand Chapter during the pleasure of the same.

RULE 9. All questions of order are to be decided by the presiding officer.

RULE 10. When a companion speaks, he shall rise and remain standing, addressing himself to the Grand High Priest, and shall not be interrupted except on a point of order.

RULE 11. When a motion is under debate, no motion shall be entertained, except to adjourn, lay on the table, to indefinitely postpone, commit or to amend; and these motions shall take precedence in the order in which they are herein named.

RULE 12. Any member may call for a division of the question when the same will admit it.

RULE 13. A motion that entirely changes the subject matter of the original motion shall not be entertained as an amendment to or substitute for the motion under debate.

RULE 14. No one, except he voted with the majority, shall be allowed to move for a reconsideration.

In this connection, the word majority shall apply to the vote by which the question was first decided.

RULE 15. After a motion has been stated by the Grand High Priest, it becomes the property of the Grand Chap-

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ter, but may be withdrawn at any time previous to amendment unless objected to by a member.

RULE 16. There shall be no debate upon any question after it has been put by the Grand High Priest.

RULE 17. All communications, motions and resolutions shall be couched in respectful language.

RULE 18. When the Grand High Priest is addressing the Grand Chapter, or a companion speaking to a question, they shall not be interrupted by other members talking or passing between the speaker and the chair.

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PENAL CODE

OF THE

Grand Chapter R. A. Masons

OF THE

STATE OF MICHIGAN.

OFFENSES.

1. Every violation, by a chapter Mason, of his masonic obligations, or of the established laws, usages and customs of Masonry—every violation of the municipal law, involving moral turpitude, is a masonic offense, for which the offender may be subjected to such lawful punishment as the tribunal having jurisdiction in the case shall adjudge. Communicating the proceedings of a chapter to a person not a Royal Arch Mason is a masonic offense.

2. Masonry will not take judicial cognizance of offenses merely ecclesiastical or political in their nature, nor of a breach of contract or claim at law between Chapter Masons, or between one Chapter Mason and another, unless involving *moral* turpitude in the offender. The term "Chapter Mason" shall be construed to include Mark, Past and Most Excellent Masters.

TRIBUNAL.

3. No chapter shall hear or determine a masonic trial until it shall have been regularly chartered, and its officers duly elected and installed: *Provided*, That when any offense shall be committed within the territory of a chapter U. D.,

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by one not a member of a contiguous chapter, the matter shall be referred by the High Priest to the Grand High Priest, who shall have power to direct in what chapter the offender shall be tried.

4. For the purpose of a masonic trial, the tribunal shall consist solely of Royal Arch Masons in good standing, who are members of the chapter in which the trial is pending.

5. The High Priest or his lawful representative shall preside at the trial. He shall decide all points of order, and all questions relating to the legality, sufficiency or regularity of any charges, or of any service, paper or proceedings in the case, allow or forbid amendments and continuances and control debate. No appeal shall be taken from his decision to the chapter; but he shall be responsible to the Grand Chapter for any abuse of his powers or error in the exercise thereof; provided that a High Priest, preferring charges, shall not preside during action upon said charges.

JURISDICTION.

6. The penal jurisdiction of a chapter is that power which it constitutionally possesses to take judicial cognizance of masonic offences, and to prosecute and punish chapter Masons therefor. A chapter has penal jurisdiction over all Royal Arch Masons, affiliated and non-affiliated, residing or sojourning within its territory, and over all of its members, and over its Mark Masters, Past Masters and Most Excellent Masters, wheresoever dispersed: *Provided*, That the Grand High Priest and the High Priest shall be exempt from the penal jurisdiction of any constituent chapter during their term of office; but for all unmasonic or immoral acts done by either while in office, and not official in their nature, he shall be subject to the penal jurisdiction of the chapter, when that term expires.

7. A chapter has exclusive, original jurisdiction, in all cases of violation of its own by-laws or internal regulations.

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8. Conviction and punishment, by a court of law, shall not bar a masonic prosecution for the same offense.

CHARGES.

9. Charges shall be made in writing (so far as proper to be written) signed by the accuser, and filed with the Secretary of the chapter. The offense must be charged with certainty, and time, place and particulars distinctly specified. A general charge of unmasonic conduct, without specifications, shall not be received.

10. If the charges be filed at a regular convocation, they shall thereupon be read by the Secretary in open chapter. If they be filed at any other time they shall be so read at the next regular convocation after such filing. The charges shall not be amended after such reading, except by permission of the High Priest in open chapter.

11. Charges may be preferred only by an affiliated Royal Arch Mason in good standing. The High Priest, whenever he shall deem proper, may direct the Scribe to prefer charges.

12. When charges are preferred against an officer of the chapter, the Grand High Priest may, in his discretion, suspend the accused from office during the pendency of the trial.

13. Charges may be preferred against a chapter Mason who is under sentence of suspension; and the chapter may, without reinstating the accused, proceed to try and punish him for any masonic offense other than that for which he was suspended.

14. Charges of violation of any enactment of the Grand Chapter, or of the code, shall specify with particularity the provisions violated, as well as the facts of the violation. When the offense is non-payment of dues, charges must be preferred and trial had as for any other masonic offense.

15. If the charges be received, a true copy thereof shall be served upon the accused, together with a summons

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requiring him to appear and answer; which summons shall be made returnable at such subsequent regular convocation as the High Priest shall direct.

16. The copy and summons may be served by any member of the chapter. The service must be personal, and at least ten days before the return day if the place of residence of the accused is within the jurisdiction of the chapter and known to the Secretary; but if his residence is not known, or is beyond the jurisdiction, then the copy and summons shall be sent by mail to the last known post office address of the accused, at least sixty days before the return day, in an envelope properly addressed, and such service shall be deemed sufficient. By the term "place of residence," shall be understood the domicile or place occupied by the accused as a home. The person making such service shall file a certificate of the time, place and manner of making the same.

17. The accused shall be entitled to a speedy and impartial trial, and for unreasonable neglect of prosecution the High Priest may, in his discretion, dismiss the charges.

18. The masonic standing of the accused is not affected until after sentence. He is presumed to be innocent until proved to be guilty, and he may, at all times before sentence, vote upon all matters not involved in the charges and specifications pending against him: *Provided*, That he shall be debarred from visiting any but his own chapter until after the determination of the case.

ANSWER.

19. The answer shall be in writing unless the accused answer generally *guilty* or *not guilty*, in which case he may answer orally, and such answer shall be forthwith recorded by the Secretary. If he answer in writing, his answer shall be filed with the charges and annexed thereto.

20. If the accused neglect or refuse to answer, or stand mute, an answer of *not guilty* shall be recorded, and

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the trial shall proceed in all things as though he had thus answered.

COUNSEL.

21. Either the accuser or the accused may choose counsel for his assistance. None but a Royal Arch Mason in good standing shall appear as counsel.

22. The High Priest may appoint counsel in such case as he shall deem proper, if none be chosen. If the accused do not appear, the High Priest shall appoint counsel for the defense, whose duty it shall be to see that the trial is fairly conducted, and the accused not unjustly imperiled.

23. A Royal Arch Mason under suspension, or a Mark Master Mason, Past Master Mason, or a Most Excellent Master Mason, can only appear in the chapter by counsel, but he may appear personally at all meetings of commissioners in his case.

PROOFS.

24. Upon the coming in of the answer, the High Priest may, and, in case the accused shall not have attained the Royal Arch degree, the High Priest shall, appoint three commissioners, members of the chapter in good standing, before whom, or a majority of them, all the proofs in the case shall be taken.

25. The accused may object to any or all of the commissioners, upon the sufficiency of which objection the High Priest shall decide, and make such further appointments as shall be requisite.

26. The High Priest has the right, by virtue of his office, to be present and preside at all meetings of the commissioners. When present, he shall decide all questions of order and procedure; in his absence the commissioners shall decide.

27. The commissioners shall give the accuser and accused, or their counsel, at least five days' notice of the time

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and place of their meeting for taking of proofs. If the accused shall not have appeared, nor answered, he need not be notified.

28. If there be material testimony which cannot be produced before the commissioners, the same may be taken at such other reasonable time and place, and before such other competent person or persons as the High Priest shall order, five days' notice of which shall be given, as herein provided.

29. The testimony of the prosecution shall first be taken, after which the accused may introduce proofs for his defense. If any new questions be raised by the testimony for the defense, the prosecution may rebut the same, but cannot enter into any new matters unless the accused be allowed to reply to the same by counter proofs.

30. The best evidence which the circumstances admit shall be produced. All testimony that is relevant to the issue should be admitted; that which is irrelevant should be excluded. As a general rule, hearsay evidence should be excluded; but in this regard an equitable discretion may be exercised.

31. Both parties shall have the right of cross-examination and objection.

32. Any discreet person is a competent witness. A witness cannot be compelled to criminate himself.

33. The official books and records of the chapter are evidence in themselves; so are also the charter of the chapter, and the laws and enactments of the chapter and the Grand Chapter.

34. The testimony of a Master Mason in good standing shall be taken upon his masonic honor and obligation. The testimony of profanes shall be taken under oath, the oath to be administered by any officer competent under the law to administer oaths. The testimony of one under sentence of suspension or expulsion shall be taken in the same manner as that of a profane.

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35. The attendance of witnesses who are Chapter Masons may be enforced by summons, to be issued by the High Priest (or his lawful representative) upon application of either party. Willful disobedience of such summons is a masonic offense and shall subject the offender to discipline.

36. All the testimony proper to be written shall be reduced to writing.

37. The Commissioners shall keep full minutes of all their proceedings (including all motions, objections and rulings), and report them, with all the testimony, to the chapter; but they shall report no opinion.

38. The Secretary of the chapter (or some brother deputed in his stead by the High Priest) shall act as Secretary of the commissioners. He shall fully and carefully record all proceedings pertaining to the trial that are had in the chapter. He shall attach together all papers filed in the case, together with a report of the commissioners in their order, with the date of filing endorsed upon each, and carefully preserve the same in the archives of the chapter; but the same shall not be entered on record.

39. The accused shall be competent to testify in the case.

ARGUMENT.

40. Upon the reception of the report of the commissioners, the accuser and accused have the right, either in person or by counsel, to argue the case before the chapter.

41. The High Priest has the power to limit the parties in their argument to such a time as he may deem proper, but he shall announce such limitation before the opening of the argument.

DELIBERATION.

42. Upon the conclusion of the argument (or, if there be no argument, then upon the conclusion of the testimony) the accuser (except he be the Scribe prosecuting officially,

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and in such case the party or parties directly aggrieved) and the accused, with their counsel, and every other person not authorized to vote upon the final decision of the case, shall retire from the chapter, and the doors shall be closed for deliberation.

43. It is proper at this stage of the proceedings, for any brother to express his views of the case, and of the law and facts involved.

JUDGMENT.

44. Final judgment upon the guilt or innocence of the accused can only be passed in a chapter of Royal Arch Masons. None shall be present but those legally qualified to vote upon the case. An honorary member of the chapter, who is not also an actual member, cannot vote nor be present.

45. The vote of the chapter shall be first taken upon the question, "Is the accused guilty or not guilty?"

46. The vote shall be by ball ballot, and shall be taken upon each specification separately. Black shall be cast for *guilty*, and white for *not guilty*.

47. Before the ballot is taken the High Priest shall see that ballots of each color, equal at least in number to the number of members present, are provided and placed in the ballot box.

48. The High Priest, King and Scribe shall inspect the ballot, and the result shall be declared forthwith by the High Priest.

49. Two-thirds of the votes cast shall be required to convict.

50. Every companion present shall vote unless excused by the unanimous consent of the chapter.

51. The result of the ballot upon each specification shall be recorded by the Secretary in regular order, with the numbers severally cast for *guilty* and *not guilty*. The chapter may convict or acquit of a part or all of the specifications as they shall deem just.

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52. If the accused be acquitted, the judgment of the chapter shall be so recorded and declared forthwith. There can no reconsideration of the votes nor repassing of the ballot. The only remedy is by appeal to the Grand Chapter.

PENALTY.

53. After the conviction the vote shall immediately be taken upon the penalty in the following order, beginning with the highest and decending until the requisite vote is given to declare the sentence, viz.:

1. Expulsion.
2. Indefinite suspension.
3. Definite suspension.
4. Reprimand.

54. If a specific penalty be provided by law for any offense, no other penalty than the one provided shall be inflicted or voted upon in such case. If the conviction is on account of non-payment of dues, no ballot shall be necessary to determine the penalty, but upon any such conviction, the High Priest shall immediately declare the penalty of indefinite suspension.

55. The vote shall be by ballot and shall be regulated by similar rules as in passing judgment.

56. A two-thirds vote shall be required for sentence of expulsion or suspension. Sentence of reprimand may be passed by a majority vote.

57. There shall be no reconsideration nor repassing of any ballot taken in the course of a masonic trial.

58. Only one of the masonic penalties shall be inflicted in any case, nor shall any other punishment be inflicted than is herein provided.

59. The result of the ballot upon each penalty shall be entered at large upon the record, with the number of votes for and against in each instance, and in the order in which the proceedings occur.

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60. At the conclusion of the ballot upon the penalty, the accuser and counsel shall be re-admitted to the chapter, and the High Priest shall announce the result.

61. The parties shall at once be notified of the action of the chapter. All cases of expulsion, suspension and withdrawal shall be reported by the Secretary to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter and to contiguous chapters. If the person expelled or suspended were a member of another chapter than the one in which he was tried, the chapter of which he was a member shall be immediately notified of the sentence, and the cause of the same, by the Secretary. Suspension or expulsion by his masonic lodge shall operate to suspend such member from his chapter, but a restoration by his lodge shall return him to membership in his chapter.

APPEALS.

62. Any companion deeming himself aggrieved by the decision of the chapter, of the High Priest thereof, or of the commissioners, may appeal to the Grand Chapter. All appeals shall be in writing, and shall set forth clearly the ground upon which the appellant seeks redress.

63. The appeal may be taken whether the accused be convicted or acquitted, and by either party. It applies as well in questions of law as in questions of fact, and may be taken from any erroneous action, ruling or decision of the chapter, the High Priest, or the commissioners.

64. The appeal must be taken and notice thereof given in writing to the chapter, by filing the same with the Secretary within forty days after the appellant shall have notice of the decision from which the appeal is taken.

65. Upon receipt of the notice of appeal, the Secretary shall immediately make and transmit to the Grand Secretary full and accurate copies, duly certified, of all of the proceedings in the case as they are recorded upon the books of the chapter, and of the charges and specifications, answer or answers, notices, summons, proofs, reports and all

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papers of every kind in the archives of the chapter pertaining to the subject matter. He shall minute upon the record the receipt of the notice of appeal, and the date of his return to the Grand Chapter.

66. The appeal shall be prosecuted at the first annual convocation of the Grand Chapter after the time limited for taking the same shall have expired. Any appeal not prosecuted as aforesaid shall, on motion, be dismissed by the Grand Chapter, unless good cause for the delay appear. After such dismissal the masonic standing of the accused shall be the same as though no appeal had been taken.

67. If, after an appeal is taken, either party desires to introduce new evidence, he shall apply to the Grand High Priest, stating the nature of the same. The Grand High Priest may thereupon, in his discretion, order such new evidence to be taken before the Standing Committee on Appeals. Ten days notice of the time and place of taking such new evidence shall be given by said committee to both parties and their counsel, and at such time and place either party may introduce any new and competent evidence.

68. No case shall be reversed upon appeal for mere matter of form, provided substantial justice shall have been done, and no injury wrought by the informality or irregularity which shall appear.

69. After a due investigation of the case, the Grand Chapter may, by a majority vote,

1. Affirm the decision appealed from.
2. Reverse the decision.
3. Modify or change the decision.
4. Award a new trial.

70. If the decision from which the appeal was taken, be affirmed, the masonic standing of the accused shall remain as fixed by the decision of the subordinate tribunal.

71. If a new trial be awarded, the standing of the accused shall be, in the meantime, that of a Mason under charges, and as though no trial had been held.

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72. From taking of an appeal until its determination by the Grand Chapter, the standing of the accused (if he were suspended or expelled) shall be that of a Chapter Mason under charges: *Provided*, That he shall be debarred, during said time, from sitting in any chapter.

NEW TRIALS.

73. A new trial in the chapter shall proceed (unless special order be made to the contrary by the Grand Chapter or the Grand High Priest) upon the charges and answer already on file, and shall begin at the introduction of the proofs; the powers of the High Priest as to amendments, appointments of commissioners and counsel, and all other matters, being the same as upon the original trial.

74. If, upon new trial, the accused again be convicted, he may again appeal to the Grand Chapter. No number of convictions or acquittals can exhaust the right of either party to appeal.

75. An accused party under sentence may apply to the Grand High Priest (in the *interim*) for a new trial, who, upon satisfactory reasons appearing, may order the same.

76. The chapter may grant a new trial upon the aplication of either party, by a unanimous vote, but not otherwise. Upon new trial ordered by the chapter, the like rules govern in all respects as when ordered by the Grand Chapter or the Grand High Priest.

RESTORATION.

77. A Chapter Mason under sentence of definite suspension is, by operation of law, restored at the termination of the period for which he stood suspended, to all the rights and privileges from which he was suspended, without any action of the chapter or of the accused. The termination of the sentence is the termination of the suspension.

78. One under sentence of expulsion, or of definite or indifinite suspension, may be restored by the chapter pro-

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nouncing the sentence, upon his own petition, if the sa: shall appear to be just and proper.

79. The chapter may restore a Chapter Mason unc sentence of definite or indefinite suspension by a two-thi vote; but one under sentence of expulsion shall only be : stored by the unanimous vote of the chapter wherein t sentence was passed. Restoration from expulsion shall in all respects the same as the admission of a profane, e cept as to the conferring of degrees.

80. Restoration shall not be granted by the Gra Chapter in any case, except from its own sentence: *P vided*, That this provision shall not apply to appea nor to persons expelled by chapters which subsequen shall have ceased to exist.

GRAND CHAPTER TRIALS.

81. Charges against a chapter or High Priest sh only be preferred to the Grand Chapter.

82. The charges shall be in writing, and shall be fi with the Grand Secretary. The Grand High Priest sh thereupon issue a summons to the accused, commandi appearance at a time and place therein to be prescribed.

83. The Grand Secretary shall forthwith serve t summons, accompanied by an interlocutory order of t Grand High Priest, and a certified copy of the charges t on the accused, or cause the same to be done; which serv shall be under the like rules as service of summons a charges in trials in the chapter.

84. Upon the filing of the charges the Grand Hi Priest may make such order as the case shall demand. the charges be against a chapter, he may arrest its char until the conclusion of the trial; if against a High Priest may suspend the accused from office for a like period.

85. Trial in the Grand Chapter shall be conduct substantially under the same rules as a trial in the chapt *Provided*, That all judicial action in the Grand Chapter sh

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be taken by majority vote, which vote shall be taken as the Grand High Priest may direct, and may be reconsidered at any time within twenty-four hours.

86. The Grand Chapter may punish individual offenders by the infliction of any of the masonic penalties. A chapter shall be punished by the arresting or revoking of its charter.

87. The Grand Chapter may, for sufficient cause, grant a new trial within its own body. If the Grand Chapter be not in session, the application for new trial shall be made to the Grand High Priest, who has, in the *interim*, power to grant the same.

88. The granting of a new trial in the Grand Chapter is attended with the like effects, as to the former decision or sentence, and the masonic standing of the accused, as in the like case in the chapter, and the new trial shall proceed upon the same general principles as in the first instance.

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EDICTS

OF THE

Grand Chapter R. A. Masons

OF THE

STATE OF MICHIGAN.

I.

Any Royal Arch Mason, or any number of such, or of Past Master Masons, who shall attempt to confer the Past Master's degree upon a Master-elect of a Blue Lodge, in any other manner than under the sanction of a lawful warrant from the Grand Chapter, are, in the opinion of this Grand Chapter, clandestine, and such acts are unmasonic.

II.

The subordinate chapters in this jurisdiction are hereby required to conform strictly to the work adopted by this Grand Chapter.

III.

The practice of opening chapters and calling off from one meeting to another, instead of closing the chapter, is highly improper and contrary to the ancient customs and usages of Royal Arch Masonry; and the subordinate chapters are hereby prohibited from practicing such a custom.

IV.

The publication and circulation, by sale or otherwise, of Keys of the work pertaining to the chapter degrees, not properly authenticated and approved by this Grand Chapter, is hereby strictly prohibited; and any violation of this

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resolution shall subject the companion, so offending, to charges for unmasonic conduct, and, on conviction, to suspension or expulsion, as a majority of this Grand Chapter may, at any regular meeting, see fit and proper to inflict.

V.

The dues of no chapter shall be remitted by reason of loss by fire, unless the furniture and jewels of said chapter shall have been insured at the time of such loss.

VI.

Whenever any member of a subordinate chapter shall willfully neglect or refuse to obey the order of the High Priest of his chapter, in performing the work of the chapter in strict obedience to the edicts of this Grand Body, it shall be the duty of such High Priest to deny such disobedient member admission to the chapter, until he shall promise strict obedience to said edicts.

VII.

Subordinate chapters shall report to the Grand Secretary *at once* after action it is taken thereon, all rejections, suspension, withdrawals, reinstatements and expulsons.

The Grand Secretary shall notify all subordinate chapters, once in three months, of all such rejections, suspensions, withdrawals, reinstatements and expulsions.

The Secretary of the subordinate chapters shall enter the same in a blank book, to be kept as a record of the same.

VIII.

The High Priests of subordinate chapters are hereby required to examine all candidates in open lodge, as to their proficiency in the preceding degree, before further advancement.

IX.

The petition of a non-affiliated Mason shall not be received by any chapter working under this jurisdiction.

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X.

After a brother (companion) receives the degrees, he must remain a member in good standing, of a Blue Lodge; and that in case he takes a dimit or a withdrawal certificate from his lodge, and voluntarily remains non-affiliated for the space of twelve months, he shall be suspended from all the rights and privileges of Royal Arch Masonry.

XI.

Whenever a candidate shall have been duly elected to take the chapter degrees, and shall have received either the degree of Mark Master, Past Master or Most Excellent Master, if objection be made by a companion to his further advancment, it shall be the duty of the High Priest to require the objector to file charges and specifications against the brother, and in case he neglects or refuses to do so, the High Priest may proceed to confer the remaining degree upon the candidate.

XII.

The naming of a chapter after the name of a living person is hereby prohibited.

XIII.

Every companion exalted in a chapter within this jurisdiction becomes by such exaltation a member thereof without signing the by-laws, unless the work be done at the request of some other chapter, in which case he becomes a member of the chapter requesting the work.

XIV.

When a companion has been tried and convicted for the masonic offense of non-payment of dues, the chapter shall forthwith inflict the penalty of indefinite suspension; and, in case the chapter shall neglect or refuse to inflict such penalty, the Grand High Priest shall arrest the charter of the chapter refusing to execute this edict.

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XV.

For better execution of Section 8, Article 6, of the constitution of this Grand Chapter, the Secretary of this Grand Chapter shall pay over no moneys to the Treasurer until he shall have filed the proper bond and it is approved by the Grand High Priest, and on his failure to do so in the time prescribed, the office shall be declared vacant.

The Finance Committee, upon settling with the Treasurer, shall require him to produce satisfactory evidence that the funds in his possession are in cash, or certificates of deposit.

XVI.

The Grand Secretary is instructed to require the several subordinate Secretaries, by circular or otherwise, to arrange names of members in alphabetical order, in making their annual returns to the Grand Chapter.

XVII.

Each subordinate chapter shall be required to provide themselves with a book of records corresponding with the blank furnished, and therein perfect the masonic records of the members of their chapter, and transmit a copy to the Grand Secretary when required, he to furnish a blank for the same.

XVIII.

A fee of *five dollars* ($5.00) shall be required for each dispensation issued by the Grand High Priest; the amount to accompany the application for same, and to be paid over by him to the Grand Secretary.

XIX.

The Secretary of each chapter is required to report by telegram to the Grand Secretary the death of any Grand Officer, Past Grand Officer, or other prominent Royal Arch Mason residing within their jurisdiction; and on receipt of such information the Grand Secretary shall at once inform

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the Grand High Priest, and if advisable the Grand Officers may attend the funeral as a Grand Chapter.

XX.

This Grand Chapter approves and recommends the remitting of the dues of such of their members as have reached seventy years of age.

When a subordinate chapter shall remit the dues of a companion on reaching seventy years of age, said companion shall be borne on the rolls of the subordinate chapter as an emerited member of such chapter.

This Grand Chapter will and does hereby remit the per capita tax on such members of subordinate chapters as are borne on their several rolls as emerited members, on account of being over seventy years of age.

XXI.

The Grand Secretary is authorized to issue certificates of good standing to companions of any chapter whose charter may have been surrendered or revoked, providing the companions pay for the same, in addition to all dues they were owing the chapter when the charter was surrendered or arrested.

XXII.

The Grand High Priest is hereby instructed, when new dispensations are granted, at once to notify the subordinate chapters whose territorial jurisdictions are affected thereby.

XXIII.

In calling the roll at the opening of the Grand Chapter, the name of any deceased member of this Grand Chapter shall be called, and the Grand High Priest shall then call up the Grand Chapter and formally announce his death.

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RULINGS.

AID.

A companion, unless authorized by the chapter or council, has no right to assist any one and present the bill to the chapter. A bill incurred by a companion is not a proper bill to be presented to a chapter for payment.

BALLOT.

There can be no reconsideration of the ballot. The High Priest having declared the candidate rejected, he would have to wait the constitutional time, and petition again.

A Sentinel of a chapter, who is a member thereof, has a right to cast a ballot for a candidate.

CANDIDATES.

A brother residing for more than a year within the jurisdiction of a chapter in this state, if affiliated with any regular lodge, whether within or without the jurisdiction, can petition for the degrees and, if elected, receive them.

Objections, whether written or verbal, after ballot—any time before the brother is advanced—should be treated as having the force and effect of a black ball, and therefore as a rejection.

The loss of a leg disqualifies a Master Mason from receiving the chapter degrees.

The loss of an arm disqualifies.

When a brother has been elected to receive the chapter degrees, and fails to present himself for the same within one year after receiving notice of his election, said election shall be *null* and *void*.

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It is not lawful to confer the degrees upon a minister, without fee. See Section 13, Article VIII.

It is unlawful for the Grand High Priest to grant dispensation to receive the petition of a brother who has been living some years in an adjoining state.

A brother who some years ago received the Mark Master degree, and has since failed to take the rest of the degrees, is entitled to all the rights and privileges of a Mark Mason, while in good standing.

A brother who has been elected to receive the chapter degrees can be stopped by objection or otherwise. If he has received one or more degrees, an objection would only avail for thirty days, unless charges and specifications were preferred, in which case a trial must be had.

The filing of charges and specifications of themselves is not sufficient. It is the duty of the chapter to investigate the charges, and if the same shall not be proven, the degrees shall be conferred on the companion as if no charges had been made. If charges are proven, the companion can only be advanced as provided for under Article X, Section 8, Grand Chapter constitution.

A brother desiring to receive the chapter degrees, must petition to the chapter nearest to the place where he resides, except in cases of concurrent jurisdiction as provided for in Section 6, Article X, of the constitution of the Grand Chapter of the State of Michigan; provided that any other chapter may receive and act upon the petition upon a waiver of jurisdiction.

In all cases, whether the candidate is rejected or an objection is made after an election, the fees must be returned to the candidate.

After a petition has been received and referred to a committee, and a report made thereon, a ballot must be had —provided the chapter has jurisdiction—and the High Priest must announce the result of the ballot.

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A Master Mason who has lost the thumb of his right hand at the second joint is disqualified.

A petition for affiliation must be referred to a committee and lay over one lunar month the same as a petition for the degrees. There is no distinction between application for affiliation and one for the degrees.

DEGREES.

A brother elected to receive the degrees in a chapter, after being advanced to the degree of Mark Master, removes into the jurisdiction of another chapter and petitions that chapter for the balance of the degrees. His petition must be referred to a committee and lay over until the next regular meeting of the chapter and a release of jurisdiction secured, before a ballot can be had, which ballot must be unanimous to secure his election.

No more than one candidate can take the M. M. or P. M. degree at one time.

The chapter has no right to confer the degrees upon any person for less than the usual fee, nor can the fees be returned to the candidate. See Section 13, Article VIII, Grand Chapter constitution.

A chapter, having conferred the degrees upon a companion by request of a neighboring chapter, does not acquire control. The companion is a member of the chapter making the request.

DUES.

A subordinate chapter is not obliged, nor in any way required, to pay dues to Grand Chapter during the time of suspension of a member.

A companion suspended for non-payment of dues, and desiring restoration, must pay his dues and petition by letter or otherwise, provided it not be verbal, for restoration—said chapter may grant the request. It requires a two-thirds vote to restore.

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ELECTION.

A chapter consists of nine regular Royal Arch Masons, and therefore, by parity of reasoning, a candidate or officer cannot be legally elected unless there are at least nine ballots cast.

ELIGIBILITY TO OFFICE.

An involuntary non-affiliated Master Mason can hold an office in a chapter if he is a member of a chapter and there are no charges preferred againt him.

INSTALLATION.

No one but a present or Past High Priest can install the officers of a chapter.

JURISDICTION.

It is the residence of the applicant which gives jurisdiction. The location of his lodge is of no importance.

Upon a question of personal waiver of jurisdiction for the chapter degrees, the expression of the chapter should be by ballot.

A chapter cannot relinquish a part of its territorial jurisdiction to another chapter.

OBJECTIONS.

Objection filed before the ballot is taken does not do away with the ballot. No objection can be valid until the candidate is elected.

OFFICERS.

The High Priest of a chapter cannot appoint the Sentinel; he must be elected.

A Secretary not having severed his membership from the chapter, no vacancy exists that can be filled by an election. The office must be filled from time to time pro tempore.

Officers cannot be legally installed except in open chapter.

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RESTORATION.

A companion suspended by his lodge from all the rights and benefits of Masonry, or taking a withdrawal certificate therefrom, and subsequently restored by his lodge to all the rights and benefits of Masonry and to membership in his lodge, is thereby restored to membership in his chapter. The only action necessary by the chapter is to enter the fact of such restoration by his lodge on the record.

RULINGS.

Masons have nothing whatever to do with courts. The mere decision of courts should have no weight with Masons as between Masons unless after due examination and fair trial by his companions, the accused be found guilty of the offense.

Subordinate chapters are bound to obey the mandates of the Grand Chapter as soon as the same become operative.

Until a legal trial has been had, and judgment and sentence passed upon the companion, he has a right to take part in the work and business of the chapter.

The funds of a chapter are raised for masonic purposes and should be sacredly held as such.

The mere payment of dues by a brother suspended by his lodge for non-payment of dues, is not sufficient to reinstate him in the chapter. It requires, in addition, affirmative action by his lodge.

A trial of a companion having been commenced, and findings of a commission reported, if for good causes shown the trial cannot proceed at the time, no reason exists why the ballot on the question of guilt or innocence cannot proceed at an adjourned meeting called for that purpose.

The removal of an officer from the jurisdiction of his chapter does not vacate the office except he has severed his conection with the chapter by dimit. He may return at any time during his term of office and occupy his position,

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Objection being raised to the installation of the High Priest elect by a member of the chapter in good standing, such reasons might be given as would warrant the installing officer to delay the installation, but if no charges are presented, the installing of the new officers should at once proceed.

It is not proper for a chapter to pay the expenses of a candidate coming from the jurisdiction of a sister chapter. No inducement should be extended to applicants whether within or without the jurisdiction; it should be of their own free will and accord.

It is not lawful for the High Priest or any other companion, brother or friend, to sign the name of a petitioner to a petition.

It is not lawful to admit and confer the degrees on a person who can neither read nor write.

A chapter has a right to reconsider at a regular meeting a resolution passed and recorded at the preceding meeting.

The High Priest has the right to summons any member of his chapter at any time, but should use that power with discretion and judgment, and not abuse it.

No elective officer can be installed by proxy.

It is necessary that a companion charged with nonpayment of dues must be charged with certainty, and time, place and particulars distinctly specified.

The proper place for the charter of a chapter is in the chapter room proper, under the immediate charge of the High Priest, while the chapter is at work.

The Treasurer is the legal custodian of money of the chapter, and it is the duty of the Secretary to turn all fees over to him without delay, failing to do which, he shall be subject to charges.

A companion of a chapter who repeatedly and presistently declares his intention to continue to cast a black ball

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against an applicant for the chapter degrees, on account, as openly expressed, of political or personal differences, is subject to masonic discipline, and the High Priest shall order the Scribe to prefer charges.

SUSPENSIONS.

A masonic rule of universal application, is that when a companion is suspended in a Blue Lodge, it suspends him in his chapter without trial. In such case it is the prerogative of the High Priest of the chapter to procure and file in his chapter a certificate from the Blue Lodge of such conviction and sentence, or other sufficient masonic evidence, and order one entered in the records of his chapter of like tenor and effect.

VISITORS.

A companion cannot be admitted as a visitor merely on information imparted in what is usually called a diploma; the diploma is entitled to consideration only as a corroborative proof. The companions must pass an otherwise satisfactoy examination.

A visiting companion, who has made himself personally objectionable, has not the right to visit a chapter against the wishes of one of its members.

WORK.

A Past High Priest cannot open a chapter and do the regular work except by request of one of the council who must be present.

RULINGS SINCE 1893.

A brother who has lost the four fingers of his left hand, but who is able to form the arch and give all the chapter signs correctly, is qualified. Proc. 1894, p. 56.

A brother who has lost the first two fingers of the right hand at the third joint is disqualified. Proc. 1896, p. 18.

It is the duty of the committee to ascertain the standing of a candidate in his lodge. Proc. 1896, p. 19.

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All fees must be paid before the degrees are conferred. Proc. 1897, p. 17.

A letter written by the High Priest of a chapter and signed officially by him will bind his chapter in a controversy between chapters, if his chapter has authorized him to do so. Proc. 1897, p. 20.

It is not necessary for the High Priest to require Mark Masters to choose a mark and have the same recorded. Proc. 1898, p. 14.

After a petition has been referred to a committee it cannot be withdrawn. Proc. 1899, p. 17.

The constitution, laws and edicts of the Grand Chapter of Michigan, do not prohibit the reception of the petition of saloon keepers and bar tenders. If companions can be found who are willing to recommend them, their petitions can be received and acted upon. Proc. 1900, p. 24.

After reading petitions, the same may be withdrawn if request is made before the committee is appointed. Proc. 1900, p. 26.

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CONSTITUTION

AND

STANDING REGULATIONS

OF THE

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER

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CONSTITUTION

OF THE

General Grand Chapter of R. A. M.

OF THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

ARTICLE I.

NAME.

SECTION 1. This body shall be known and designated as the "GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA."

OF WHOM COMPOSED.

SEC. 2. The General Grand Chapter shall consist:

1. Of the following officers, that is to say: General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King, General Grand Scribe, General Grand Treasurer, General Grand Secretary, General Grand Chaplain, General Grand Captain of the Host, General Grand Principal Sojourner, General Grand Royal Arch Captain, Three General Grand Masters of the Vails, and General Grand Sentinel.

2. Of the Past General Grand High Priests, Past Deputy General High Priests, Past General Grand Kings, and Past General Grand Scribes.

3. Of the Past Grand High Priests of Grand Chapters in this jurisdiction.

4. Of the Grand High Priests, Deputy Grand High

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Priests, Grand Kings, and Grand Scribes, or their proxies duly appointed, of the Grand Chapters in this jurisdiction.

5. Of the High Priests, Kings and Scribes, or their proxies duly appointed, of the constituted chapters chartered by the General Grand Chapter.

No one shall be or continue an officer or member of the General Grand Chapter who is not a member in good standing of a chapter in this jurisdiction.

None but present or Past High Priests shall be eligible to the first four offices in the General Grand Chapter.

The proxy of a Grand Officer must be a member of a chapter in his own jurisdiction. The proxy of an officer of a subordinate chapter may be held by any affiliated Royal Arch Mason within the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter.

MEETINGS.

SEC. 3. The stated convocations of the General Grand Chapter shall be holden triennially, at such time and place as shall, from time to time, be designated for that purpose, provided that the twenty-eighth convocation shall be holden in the year 1891.

SEC. 4. Special convocations may be called by the General Grand High Priest, upon the request of the officers of three Grand Chapters; and shall be called upon the request of the Grand High Priests of ten Grand Chapters, timely notice thereof being given to all those entitled to membership in the General Grand Chapter.

SEC. 5. If, in the opinion of the General Grand High Priest, there shall be danger to life or health, from sickness or other local cause, by any convocation being held at the time appointed, he may change the time and place of the particular convocation; in which event he shall immediately notify the General Grand Secretary, who shall forthwith give notice to all the officers and members of the General Grand Chapter in such manner as he may deem best calculated to effect the desired object.

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SEC. 6. No business shall be transacted in the General Grand Chapter unless nine Grand Chapters shall be represented therein.

POWERS.

SEC. 7. The General Grand Chapter has and possesses no other powers than such as are indispensably necessary to the exercise of its general powers, and consistent with the nature of the relations subsisting between the State Grand Chapters. It can exercise no doubtful powers, nor any powers by implication merely; and all masonic powers not hereby granted to it are reserved to the Grand and subordinate chapters of the several states, or to Royal Arch Masons individually.

It shall have and maintain jurisdiction over all chapters established by itself in those states, districts, republics and territories which recognize this jurisdiction, and where there is no Grand Chapter established.

It shall have power to decide all questions of masonic law, usage and custom which may arise between any two or more Grand Chapters, or in any of the subordinate chapters under its own immediate jurisdiction, and all that may be referred to it for its decision by any Grand Chapter, by formal vote; and its decisions so made shall be deemed and regarded as those of the supreme judicial tribunal of Royal Arch Masonry in the last resort.

It shall have no power of discipline, admonition, censure or instruction over the Grand Chapters, nor any legislative powers whatever, not hereby specially granted, nor any authority to suspend the proceedings of any State Grand Chapters, nor shall entertain any complaint against a Grand Chapter, preferred by any subordinate chapter or individual Mason in that jurisdiction or elsewhere; but it may, upon proper reference to it of any matter of controversy between any two or more Grand Chapters, and even where the question is not one of masonic law, custom or usage (both or all

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such Grand Chapters consenting to such reference), act as final arbiter between them, and settle such controversy.

It shall judge of the qualifications of its own members. It shall see that the ancient work of the Order is preserved in the several degrees, and establish uniform formulas for installation of its own officers and those of Grand and Subordinate chapters, for the consecration and constitution of chapters, and the opening of Grand Chapters; and it may suspend the proceedings of any chapter under its own immediate jurisdiction in any state, district or territory where there is no Grand Chapter, for any willful violation of any of the provisions of this constitution, or for gross unmasonic proceedings or conduct.

ELECTIONS.

SEC. 8. The officers of the General Grand Chapter (except the General Grand Chaplain and Sentinel) shall be chosen at each triennial convocation by ballot, by a majority of the votes cast.

The General Grand Chaplain and General Grand Sentinel shall be appointed by the General Grand High Priest at the commencement of each convocation of the General Grand Chapter; and in all cases, the General Grand Officers shall hold their respective offices until their successors are installed.

SEC. 9. Each member of the General Grand Chapter, except the General Grand Sentinel, shall have one vote in his own right, and no more; if, however, any officer of a Grand Chapter be not present in person or by proxy when any vote is taken, then the senior officer present shall cast the votes of those not present. Officers, or their proxies of the subordinate chapters, shall collectively have one vote.

COMMITTEES.

SEC. 10. At each triennial convocation the General Grand High Priest shall appoint the following Standing Committees, each consisting of seven members: 1, On Cre-

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dentials; 2, On Reports of General Grand Officers; 3, On Finance; 4, On Jurisprudence; 5, On Charters and Dispensations; 6, On Grievances; 7, On Correspondence; 8, On Rituals; 9, On Memorials of the Dead. The General Grand High Priest may appoint other committees as circumstances may require.

Upon these committees shall devolve such duties as may, from time to time, be required by the General Grand Chapter.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

SEC. 11. It shall be the duty of the General Grand High Priest, and he has the power, to preside in the General Grand Chapter; to exercise and discharge the executive functions thereof when it is not in session; to convene any chapter under the immediate jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter; to preside therein, to inspect its proceedings, and require conformity to masonic law, usage and custom; to require the attendance of, and information from, any General Grand Officer respecting his office, and, when in his opinion it is proper to do so, to suspend such officer and appoint a suitable person to act in his stead, until the next convocation of the General Grand Chapter, when report thereof shall be made for its action; to appoint such General Grand Officers as may be necessary to fill vacancies, and to perform such other duties and exercise such other powers and prerogatives as properly pertain to the position, not inconsistent with the provisions of this constitution.

SEC. 12. In case of the death, absence or inability to act, of the General Grand High Priest, or a vacancy in his office, the Deputy General Grand High Priest, General King and General Grand Scribe shall, in succession, succeed to his prerogatives and duties for all purposes. In the absence of all these officers, the oldest Past General Grand Officers present, according to rank, shall preside at all convocations of the General Grand Chapter.

SEC. 13. It shall be the duty of the General Grand

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Treasurer to take charge of all the funds and property of the General Grand Chapter; to pay out no money, except upon order of the General Grand Chapter, certified by the General Grand Secretary; but when the amount to be paid shall not be fixed by the General Grand Chapter, the claim shall be audited and approved by the General Grand High Priest; to report to each triennial convocation, and oftener if required by the General Grand Chapter, or the General Grand High Priest, the amount of his receipts and expenditures, by items, and from whom received and to whom paid, and the amount of funds and property in his hands; and to execute and deposit with the General Grand High Priest an official bond within thirty days after his election, payable to the General Grand High Priest and his successors in office, with sufficient sureties, to be approved by the General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King, and General Grand Scribe, or a majority of them, in a penalty of five thousand dollars, unless a different sum shall be fixed by the General Grand Chapter, conditioned that he will pay or deliver, on demand, to the General Grand Chapter, or to his successor in office, or properly account for, all funds and property of the General Grand Chapter that shall come to his hands as General Grand Treasurer; and if the General Grand Treasurer-elect shall fail or refuse to execute a bond as herein required, then the General Grand High Priest shall appoint another General Grand Treasurer, who shall execute the required bond.

SEC. 14. It shall be the duty of the General Grand Secretary to record the transactions of the General Grand Chapter; to receive, duly file and safely keep all papers and documents of the General Grand Chapter; to prepare, sign and certify all charters, dispensations and other instruments emanating from the General Grand Chapter, and when necessary affix its seal thereto; to receive and keep a proper account of all moneys of the General Grand Chapter, and pay over the same to the General Grand Treasurer; to report to each triennial convocation, and oftener, if required

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by the General Grand Chapter, or the General Grand High Priest, the amount of moneys received by him, by items, and the specific sources from which received; also the chapters, Grand and subordinate, that have neglected to render proper returns, and are in arrears; and such general information as to the state of the chapters, Grand and subordinate, in this jurisdiction, as may be proper for the information or action of the General Grand Chapter; to conduct the correspondence of the General Grand Chapter; to attend, with all necessary books and papers under his control, on all convocations of the General Grand Chapter; to execute and deposit with the General Grand High Priest an official bond within thirty days after his election, payable to the General Grand High Priest and his successors in office, with sufficient sureties, to be approved by the General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King, and General Grand Scribe, or a majority of them, in the penalty of five thousand dollars, unless a different sum shall be fixed by the General Grand Chapter, conditioned that he will promptly pay over or deliver, on demand, to the General Grand Treasurer, or properly account for, all funds or other property of the General Grand Chapter that may come to his hands as General Grand Secretary; and if the General Grand Secretary-elect shall fail or refuse to execute such bond as herein required, then the General Grand High Priest shall appoint another General Grand Secretary, who shall execute the required bond.

SEC. 15. The remaining General Grand Officers shall perform such duties as pertain to their respective stations, according to the custom and usages of the Craft, and as may be required by the General Grand Chapter.

NEW CHAPTERS.

SEC. 16. The General Grand High Priest shall have power and authority, upon the petition of nine or more regular Royal Arch Masons, to grant dispensations, for a

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limited time, for the formation of subordinate chapters, under the immediate jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, in all cases where the General Grand Chapter has authority to establish chapters under the provisions of this constitution, when, in his opinion, the good of the Craft may require the same; the time in no case to extend beyond the close of the next triennial convocation of the General Grand Chapter. But no new chapter shall be thus established when there is a chapter within a reasonable distance in this jurisdiction, without the approbation of the chapter nearest to the place where said new chapter is proposed to be located.

Chapters under dispensation have the same powers as chartered chapters, except the election and installation of officers, and the rights growing out of such election and installation.

DUTIES OF THE GENERAL GRAND COUNCIL.

SEC. 17. It shall be the duty of the General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King and General Grand Scribe, to improve and perfect themselves in the work and lectures pertaining to the degrees conferred in this jurisdiction, as shall be prescribed by the General Grand Chapter, and to disseminate the same in the manner which, in their opinion, will best secure the desired end; or as may be required, from time to time by the General Grand Chapter.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SEC. 18. The officers of every chapter, Grand and subordinate, in this jurisdiction, before they enter upon the exercise of the functions of their respective officers, and every candidate upon his admission, shall take an obligation to support and maintain the constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America.

DEGREES.

SEC. 19. The degrees recognized by the General Grand Chapter to be conferred in chapters in this jurisdic-

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tion are Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Mason.

FEES AND DUES.

SEC. 20. The General Grand Chapter shall, from time to time, fix the amount to be paid into the treasury thereof, for the organization of, and as dues from subordinate chapters under its immediate jurisdiction, and also the assessments to be paid by Grand Chapters.

SEC. 21. The fees for conferring the several degrees by the chapters in this jurisdiction shall not be less than twenty dollars.

APPEALS.

SEC. 22. An appeal shall, in all cases, lie to the General Grand Chapter, from the decision of the General Grand High Priest; but his opinion and decision shall stand as the judgment of the General Grand Chapter, unless it shall be otherwise determined by the concurrent vote of a majority of the members present.

ARTICLE II.

GRAND CHAPTERS.

SEC. 23. Whenever there shall be three subordinate chapters regularly chartered and constituted in any state, district, republic or territory, by virtue of authority derived from this constitution, a Grand Chapter may be established as soon as convenience and propriety may dictate; provided, that the approbation of the General Grand High Priest shall have been first obtained. And any Grand Chapter thus established shall have and possess all the rights, privileges and prerogatives conferred upon Grand Chapters by this constitution.

OF WHOM COMPOSED.

SEC. 24. Grand Chapters shall consist:

1. Of the following elective officers, that is to say:

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Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary.

2. Of the following appointed officers, that is to say: Grand Chaplain, Grand Captain of the Host, Grand Royal Arch Captain and Grand Sentinel. Grand Chapters may, however, provide for the election of these officers, or any of them, by provisions to that effect in their constitution or by-laws; and may, also, in the same manner, provide for the election or appointment or such other officers as they may see proper, not in contravention of this constitution, and the usages and customs of Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction.

3. Of the Past Grand High Priests, Past Deputy Grand High Priests, Past Grand Kings and Past Grand Scribes of any Grand Chapter in this jurisdiction, while they continue members of a chapter under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter in which they seek admission.

4. Of the Past High Priests of the chartered chapters under their respective jurisdictions; also, such Past High Priests of other jurisdictions, who have removed thereto and become affiliated with a chartered chapter, who may be elected to permanent membership by the Grand Chapter; provided the Grand Chapter shall have first so prescribed in its constitution or by-laws.

5. Of the High Priests, Kings and Scribes, or their proxies duly appointed, of the chartered chapters under their respective jurisdictions; or, in their absence, then in their stead, a representative appointed by the chapter, provided that any Grand Chapter may, in its constitution or by-laws, limit the number of representatives of its subordinates to *one*, who shall be the High Priest, King, Scribe, or a representative chosen by the subordinate chapter, and having precedence in the order named.

MEETINGS.

SEC. 25. The stated convocations of Grand Chapters shall be holden at least once in every two years, and oftener,

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if they shall consider it expedient or necessary, and at such time and place as they shall respectively determine.

ELECTIONS.

SEC. 26. At each annual or biennial convocation the elective officers shall be chosen by ballot, by a majority of the votes cast.

VOTING.

SEC. 27. Each member of a Grand Chapter has one vote, and no more, in his own right; but if any officer of a chapter is not present in person or by proxy, his vote may be cast by the senior officer present, or if none, by the proxy of the senior officer; if no officer or his proxy is present, the representative of the chapter shall be entitled to three votes, provided that when a Grand Chapter shall prescribe that there shall be but one representative from each of its subordinates, such chapter or representative shall have but one vote, but this provision shall not be construed as to interfere with the operations of paragraph 4, of Section 24.

POWERS.

SEC. 28. Grand Chapters have the sole government and superintendence, except as herein otherwise specially provided, of the several subordinate chapters within their respective jurisdictions; to assign their limits and to settle any controversies which may arise between them; and shall have power, in such manner and under such restrictions as they may severally determine, not inconsistent with the provisions of this constitution, to establish new subordinate chapters within their respective jurisdictions.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

SEC. 29. The officers of Grand Chapters shall severally perform such duties and shall possess and enjoy such powers, prerogatives and privileges within their respective jurisdictions as are required, possessed and enjoyed by the officers of the General Grand Chapter of like grade, under

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the provisions of this constitution, so far as the same may be applicable.

Grand Chapters may require their Grand Officers to perform such other duties as may be deemed appropriate, not inconsistent with the provisions of this constitution, or the usages of Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction.

SEC. 30. Grand Secretaries of Grand Chapters shall severally make an annual communication to each other, and also to the General Grand Secretary, containing a list of Grand Officers, and all such other matters as may be deemed necessary for the mutual benefit and information of the Grand Chapters; and shall, also, transmit to the General Grand Secretary a copy of all their by-laws and regulations, and, annually, a copy of their proceedings to each of the officers of the General Grand Chapter.

REVENUE.

SEC. 31. Grand Chapters may make upon the subordinate chapters within their respective jurisdictions, such assessments for revenue as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the Grand Chapter; and may prescribe the time and manner of the payment thereof; and may, also, require of their respective subordinate chapters, at stated times, such information as to their condition as may be deemed proper, and may prescribe penalties for a failure to do these things.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SEC. 32. Grand Chapters in the formation of subordinate chapters in their respective jurisdictions shall observe the requirements and provisions of this constitution in relation to the establishment of subordinate chapters under the immediate jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, so far as the same may be applicable.

SEC. 33. Grand Chapters may concede territorial jurisdiction to each other, over territory nearer to a chapter in another jurisdiction than to one in their own.

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ARTICLE III.

SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

SEC. 34. Every chapter of Royal Arch Masons throughout this jurisdiction shall have a dispensation or a charter, issued under the authority of the General Grand Chapter, or some Grand Chapter in this jurisdiction; and no chapter shall be deemed legal without such dispensation or charter; and masonic communication, both public and private, is hereby interdicted and forbidden between any chapter in this jurisdction, or any member thereof, and any chapter or assembly that may be so illegally formed, opened or holden, or any member thereof, or any person exalted or advanced therein. But nothing in this section shall be construed to affect any chapter which was established before the adoption of the Grand Royal Arch Constitution, at Hartford, January 27, 1798.

SEC. 35. No dispensation or charter shall be granted for instituting lodges of Most Excellent, Past or Mark Masters independent of a chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

SEC. 36. Charters for instituting chapters of Royal Arch Masons shall contain also the power to open and hold lodges of Most Excellent, Past and Mark Master Masons—the High Priest. King and Scribe, for the time being, to be the Master and Wardens in said lodges.

SEC. 37. It is the duty of the High Priest of every chapter, as appertaining to his office, to see that the by-laws of his chapter, as well as the constitution of the General Grand Chapter, and the constitution, by-laws and regulations of the Grand Chapter, by authority of which his chapter is working, be duly observed; that all the subordinate officers of his chapter perform the duties of their respective stations faithfully, and are examples of diligence and industry to their companions; that true and exact records be kept of all the transactions of the chapter, by the Secretary; that the Treasurer keep and render exact and just accounts of all moneys

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beloning to the chapter: that the regular returns be made by the Secretary to the Grand Chapter, and the annual dues thereto be regularly and punctually paid. The charter of his chapter is committed to his special care and charge. He has the right and authority of calling his chapter together at pleasure, upon any emergency or occurence which in his judgment may require a meeting. It is also his duty, together with the King and Scribe of his chapter, to attend the convocations of the Grand Chapter, either in person or by proxy.

SEC. 38. Whenever it shall be inconvenient for the General Grand High Priest or a Grand High Priest to attend in person, to constitute a new chapter and install the officers, he shall have power and authority to appoint some worthy High Priest or Past High Priest to perform the necessary ceremonies.

SEC. 39. No person, having been a member of a chapter, shall be admitted a member of any chapter in this jurisdiction until he shall have produced a certificate from the chapter to which he last belonged, that he was in regular standing, and as such, at his own request, was dismissed and recommended, unless such chapter has ceased to exist—in which case the certificate of the General Grand or Grand Secretary of the jurisdiction in which such chapter had existed as the case may be, shall be held sufficient.

SEC. 40. Chapters in this jurisdiction are authorized to confer the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master and Most Excellent Master, on any worthy companion from without this jurisdiction, who may present himself as a Royal Arch Mason, and produce satisfactory evidence of having received that degree, to the end that he may be healed and thereby become a regular Royal Arch Mason, free of charge. For conferring said degrees, in such cases, chapters shall be exempt from paying any dues.

SEC. 41. No chapter shall confer the degrees of the chapter upon any person whose fixed place of abode is within any other state, district or territory in which there is a

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Grand Chapter regularly established, except by the consent of the subordinate chapter nearest the place of residence of the applicant, or when the Grand Chapter has ceded the territory on which he resides.

SEC. 42. When the High Priest of a chapter is absent, or, in case of his inability to act, his powers and prerogatives shall vest in the King and Scribe, in succession. In the absence of all these officers from a stated convocation or a special convocation legally called, the Junior Past High Priest present may open the chapter and preside.

REJECTED CANDIDATES.

SEC. 43. No chapter under this jurisdiction shall confer the degrees on any candidate previously rejected by any other chapter, without the consent of such rejecting chapter, provided such chapter be in existence.

QUORUM.

SEC. 44. For all purposes, except opening and closing a chapter and conferring degrees, nine members of the chapter are necessary to constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE IV.

AMENDMENTS.

SEC. 45. Amendments to this constitution may be made at any triennial convocation, upon the concurrence of two-thirds of the votes to which members present may be entitled, provided the proposed amemdment shall have been reported upon by the Committee on Jurisprudence, provided, also, that if said committee shall fail to make report, the proposed amendment may be called up by consent of two-thirds of the members present, and be acted on as if such report had been made.

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STANDING REGULATIONS

ADOPTED AUGUST 25, 1880.

First. For instituting a new chapter, there shall be paid into the treasury of the General Grand Chapter ninety dollars.

Second. Chapters under the immediate jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter shall pay into the treasury thereof one dollar for each exaltation by such chapters; and twenty-five cents annually for each and every member of the same. *Amended August 24, 1894.*

Third. Grand Chapters of this jurisdiction shall pay annually, on or before the first day of July, into the treasury of the General Grand Chapter, the sum of one cent for each Royal Arch Mason borne upon the rolls of their subordinates at the date of their preceding annual reports.

Fourth. The salary of the General Grand Secretary shall be five hundred dollars per annum. *Amended August 24, 1894.*

Fifth. The General Grand Treasurer shall receive as compensation for his services two and one-half per centum upon each and every dollar of disbursements made by him.

Sixth. The necessary expenses incurred by the officers of the General Grand Chapter, except the General Grand Chaplain and General Grand Sentinel, shall be audited by the Committee on Finance, and paid by the General Grand Treasurer.

Seventh. A reasonable compensation shall be paid to the General Grand Sentinel, to be fixed by the Committee on Finance.

Eighth. The by-laws of all chapters within the immediate jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, and all amendments to the same, shall be inoperative until approved by the General Chapter or the General Grand High Priest. *Adopted August 24, 1894.*

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DIGEST OF THE DECISIONS

OF THE

General Grand Chapter of R. A M.

OF THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

AFFILIATION.

1. Membership in a chapter should be dependent upon and co-existent with membership in a Lodge of Master Masons.

[Proceedings 1889, pages 76, 83.]

2. The resolution of the General Grand Chapter, adopted in 1889 (see pro. of 1889, p. 84), is as follows:

"Resolved, That membership in a chapter should be dependent "upon and co-existent with membership in a Lodge of Freemasons"—is declaratory only of the sense of the General Grand Chapter that every Royal Arch Mason ought to be in affiliation with a Lodge of Freemasons; but any legislation upon the subject must be left to the Grand Chapters of states and territories, or to their subordinates; and the power of the General Grand Chapter in the matter is limited to its immediate subordinates. Pro. 1891, p. 42.

See CANDIDATES. 2; CHAPTERS, U. D., 9; MEMBERSHIP.

APPEAL.

1. In 1850, the General Grand Chapter entertained an appeal from the action of the Grand Chapter of New York, but dismissed it.

[Proceedings 1850. Reprint of proceedings, page 258.]

2. The right of appeal to the General Grand Chapter by a subordinate chapter from the decision of its Grand

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Chapter does not exist in the constitution, nor has there ever been a precedent for it.

[Reprint of Proceedings, pages 338, 340; constitution, SECTION 7.]

3. An appeal may be taken from the decision of the General Grand High Priest to the General Grand Chapter.

[Reprint of proceedings 1856, page 388; constitution, SECTION 22.]

BALLOT.

1. It is contrary to the landmarks to excuse a member from voting upon a petition for the degrees.

[Proceedings 1877, page 89.]

2. The ballot should be secret. No inquiry should be allowed as to who cast a black ball, and no inquiry can be made as to the motive which induced a companion to cast a black ball.

[Proceedings 1886, pages 41, 120.]

3. When a ballot for degrees has commenced, it should be concluded and the result declared without postponement.

[Proceedings 1886, pages 41, 126.]

4. A companion who exposes his ballot or reveals the nature of his vote should be disciplined therefor.

[Proceedings 1886, page 120.]

5. A petition for degrees must be disposed of by ballot. [Pro. 1894, p. 53.]

BY-LAWS.

The by-laws of a chapter or any part of them cannot be suspended temporarily by the unanimous consent of the members of the chapter or otherwise.

[Proceedings 1886, page 126.]

CANDIDATES.

1. Previously to 1889, there was no law of the Gen-

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eral Grand Chapter prohibiting the conferring of the chapter degrees upon a non-affiliated Master Mason.

[Proceedings 1889, pages 27, 81.]

2. But, in 1889, the General Grand Chapter decided that "hereafter no chapter degree shall be conferred upon a non-affiliated Master Mason."

[Proceedings 1889, page 81.]

3. It is incompetent for Royal Arch Chapters to confer the respective degrees of Masonry upon candidates whose physical defects are such as to prevent them from conforming literally to all the requirements of such degrees.

[Reprint of proceedings, page 329.]

4. A chapter has the right to request another chapter to confer the degrees upon an elected candidate, and it may surrender jurisdiction over a candidate.

[Proceedings 1889, page 81.]

5. The petition of a rejected candidate cannot be again considered unless he present a petition anew after at least six months shall have elapsed.

[Proceedings 1889, page 81.]

6. The time elapsing after a candidate has been rejected before he can apply again is determined by the rejecting chapter, except that now the term cannot be less than six months.

[Proceedings 1883, page 22. Proceedings 1889, pages 25, 81.]

7. A Master Mason who has lost the index finger of the right hand at the second joint may be exalted a Royal Arch Mason.

[Proceedings 1877, pages 20, 89.]

8. A Mark Master Mason whose right knee is without motion, perfectly stiff, is unable to conform literally to the requirements of the work, and cannot receive the chapter degrees.

[Proceedings 1877, pages 20, 89.]

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9. A blind Mason cannot receive the chapter degrees.

[Proceedings 1877, pages 20, 89.

10. Candidates who are crippled may be accepted when their maim does not amount to inability to comply with our rites and ceremonies.

[Proceedings 1883, pages 23, 90.

11. The General Grand Chapter does not prescribe the qualifications of candidates. According to the landmarks, they must be Master Masons. The term "in good standing" is determined by the laws governing the Master Masons lodges in each particular jurisdiction. If an unaffiliated Mason is in good standing he is eligible for degrees.

[Proceedings 1874, pages 25, 60. Proceedings 1883, pages 23, 90.]

This was the law previously to 1889; but see CANDIDATES, 2, *ante*. [Proceedings 1889, page 81.]

12. In chapters under dispensation, under the immediate jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, the companions under the dispensation, including those exalted in such chapters, are the only qualified voters on petitions for degrees.

[Proceedings 1883, pages, 22, 90.]

13. A petition cannot be withdrawn after it has been entered of record, either by unaimous consent or otherwise.

[Proceedings 1883, pages 21, 90.]

14. Petitioners for degrees and for membership in chapters under the General Grand Chapter must be affiliated Master Masons.

[Proceedings 1883, pages 22, 90. Proceedings 1889, page 83.]

15. The acceptance of a candidate who has an artificial leg, but who can conform to the requirements of the work, is permissible. Pro. 1894, p. 54.

See DEGREES; JURISDICTION, 1, 2; MEETINGS, 6, 7; OBJECTION, 1, 2; RESIDENCE; SUBSTITUTES, 1.

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CHAPTERS.

1. A chapter cannot be formed without a dispensation or a charter from a Grand Chapter. [Procedings 1847. Reprint of proceedings, page 232.] And chapters formed without such dispensation or charter cannot legally unite and form a Grand Chapter. [*Ibid.*, page 233; Constitution, Section 23.]

2. A chapter can be properly opened by a Past High Priest in the absence of the High Priest, King and Scribe.

[Constitution, Section 42.]

See CANDIDATES, 4; CHAPTERS, U. D.; CHARTER, ETC., 10; DEGREES; DIMITS; DISCIPLINE; 2, 3, 4, 5; DUES; FUNERALS; HIGH PRIESTS, 1, JURISDICTION, 1, 2; MEETINGS, 4, 5, 6, 7; MINUTES; QUORUM; RESTORATION; SUBSTITUTES; WORK, 1, 2.

CHARTERS UNDER DISPENSATION.

1. No dispensation can issue for a chapter under the authority of the General Grand Chapter, without the approval of the nearest chapter, if there is one within a reasonable distance.

[Constitution, Section 16.]

2. The recommendation of the nearest chapter is not required where such nearest chapter is not within a reasonable distance.

[Proceedings 1865, page 30. Proceedings 1877, page 90.]

3. The officer granting a dispensation for a new chapter is the judge of what constitutes a reasonable distance.

[Proceedings 1865, page 30. Proceedings 1877, page 90.]

4. A chapter, distant one hundred and fifty miles, is not within a reasonable distance.

[Proceedings 1865, pages 25, 30.]

5. There is no prescribed form for approving the ap-

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plication for dispensation for a new chapter on the part of the nearest chapter. A simple resolution is all that is necessary.

[Proceedings 1877, page 19.]

6. In 1826 the General Grand Council, or a majority of its members, had power to grant dispensations and charters for Royal Arch Chapters in any country whatever, where in their opinion the good of the Craft required the establishment of the order.

[Proceedings 1826. Reprint of proceedings, page 89. The authority is now in the General Grand High Priest. Constitution, Section 16.]

7. Chapters under dispensation have the same powers as chartered chapters, except the election and installation of officers and the rights growing out of such election and installation. [Constitution, Section 16.]

8. Chapters under dispensation are not entitled to representation in the General Grand Chapter.

[Proceedings 1889, pages 27, 81.]

9. Petitioners for dispensation and exalted or affiliated companions stand on the same footing; they are all members.

[Proceedings 1877, pages 14, 88. Proceedings 1883, pages 22, 90. Constitution, Section 16.]

10. In chapters under dispensation the companions working under the dispensation, including those exalted in such chapters, are the only qualified voters on petitions for degrees.

[Proceedings 1883, pages 22, 90.]

11. The authority to hold a chapter under dispensation ceases from the time of the next convocation of the General Grand Chapter.

[Proceedings 1841. Reprint of proceedings, pages 162, 166.]

12. Chapters under dispensation from the General Grand Chapter become and are immediately under the

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jurisdiction of the State Grand Chapter whenever the same is formed.

[Proceedings 1859, page 40. Proceedings 1886, pages 71, 73, 78.]

13. Chapters under dispensation or chartered by the General Grand Chapter are responsible for dues to the General Grand Chapter until they come under the jurisdiction of a Grand Chapter.

[Proceedings 1856. Reprint of proceedings, page 395.]

CHARGES.

Charges against a companion for unmasonic conduct must be preferred at a stated convocation of a chapter.

[Proceedings 1886, page 126.]

CHARTERS AND DISPENSATIONS.

1. A charter was issued to W— as High Priest, and M— as King of a new chapter, with authority to them to name the remaining officers.

[Proceedings 1835. Reprint of proceedings, page 133.]

2. Upon the organization of a new Grand Chapter the subordinate chapters may continue to work under their old charters, or take out new ones as the Grand Chapter may decide.

[Proceedings 1877, page 89. Proceedings 1886, page 46.]

3. Such new charters should not be in the form of original warrants, but should recite the fact of the previous existence of the chapter, and authorize its continued existence. [Proceedings 1877, page 18.]

4. A charter granted by the General Grand Chapter cannot thereafter receive amendment.

[Proceedings 1886, pages 44, 120.

5. Before a charter can issue, each companion named in such charter must present a dimit from the chapter of which he was last a member.

[Proceedings 1883, page 91.]

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6. It is usual, but not legally necessary, to name as the first three officers in a charter the same companions named in the dispensation.

[Proceedings 1877, pages 14, 88.

7. It is the duty of the General Grand Secretary to insert in the charter as the first three officers of the chapter the names of the companions recommended by the resolution adopted by the chapter, U.·.D.·.

[Proceedings 1877, pages 15, 89.

8. The companions named as first three officers in a charter should be members of the chapter, although they need be of the petitioners for the dispensation.

[Proceedings 1877, page 14.]

9. Appointments until the issuance of a charter are temporary; when the chapter receives its charter it proceeds to hold its first election under the charter, and the officers so elected and installed hold until the next annual election under the by-laws, and until their successors are installed.

[Proceedings 1877, pages 15, 89.]

10. When the charter of a chapter has been accidentally destroyed, a substitute therefor, with proper recitals, may be issued.

[Proceedings 1847. Reprint of proceedings, page 225. Proceedings, 1886, page 126.]

11. When a vote was passed to give a charter to petitioners for a chapter, the case was closed, and the petitioners named were the only ones to be named in the charter.

[Proceedings 1886, page 44.]

See CHAPTERS, 1.

CLOTHING.

1. The clothing of a Royal Arch Mason is defined to be a white lamb skin apron (for which cotton or linen cannot be substituted), square in form, lined with scarlet silk and with a narrow edging of scarlet, without any device whatever on the body, but with a triple tau cross within a trian-

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gle, and that within a circle on the flap. [Pro. 1859, p. 42. Re-enacted 1889. Pro. p. 100.]

2. Where no official collar is worn, a collar of scarlet velvet coming to a point in front, edged with narrow gold lace from which may be suspended a triple interlaced triangle of gold or yellow mental as a jewel. [Pro. 1859, p. 42.]

COMMITTEES.

1. The appointment of committees is the prerogative of the High Priest.

[Proceedings 1871, page 33; Constitution, Section 10.]

2. On the first day of each session of the General Grand Chapter, Committees on Credentials, Returns, Grievances, Finance, Foreign Correspondence and Masonic Jurisprudence must be appointed.

[Proceedings 1850. Reprint of proceedings, page 274.]

3. Committee of General Grand Chapter on Returns abolished.

[Proceedings 1853. Reprint of proceedings, page 331.]

DEGREES.

1. Companions from without the jurisdiction of the United States who may present themselves as Royal Arch Masons, producing satisfactory evidence of having received that degree, may be given the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master and Most Excellent Master to the end that they may be healed. [Pro. 1844. Reprint of pro., p. 198. Pro. 1850. Reprint of Pro., pp. 264, 265, 271; Cons., Sec. 40.]

2. A foreign companion not in possession of all the degrees as practiced in the United States is not allowed to visit a chapter. [Pro., 1850. Reprint of pro., pp. 264, 265, 271. Pro. 1877, p. 17.]

3. It is no invasion of jurisdiction to confer a missing degree upon a member of a foreign chapter. [Pro. 1877, p. 17.]

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4. A resident of one jurisdiction, being a foreign companion not in possession of one of the American degrees, can be healed by a chapter in another jurisdiction in which he desires to visit. [Pro. 1877, p. 17.]

5. Healing a companion of a foreign jurisdiction to enable him to visit a chapter, does not confer membership in a dependent lodge, nor does it affiliate him with the chapter. [Pro. 1877, p. 17.]

6. The order of the degrees cannot be changed without an amendment of the constitution. [Pro. 1877, p. 90.]

7. It is not competent to confer the degrees upon clergymen without fee. [Compare pro. 1826. Reprint of pro., p. 88, with pro. 1847. Reprint of pro., p. 215.]

8. The General Grand Chapter claims no jurisdiction over the degree of Past Master conferred upon a Master-elect of a symbolic lodge as a part of the installation ceremony. [Pro. 1853. Reprint of pro., p. 328.]

9. It is not competent for a chapter to confer the degree of Past Master upon a Master-elect of a symbolic lodge who has not received the degree of Mark Master. [Pro. 1874, pp. 26, 60.]

10. A chapter can recognize no other Past Master's degree than the one conferred by it, and no other person is eligible to receive it except he be a Mark Master. [Pro. 1874, pp. 26, 60.]

11. The General Grand Chapter has no jurisdiction over the degrees of Royal and Select Master, and it is inexpedient for the General Grand Chapter to take any action concerning them. [Pro. 1880, p. 71.]

12. The ceremonies of the Past Masters's degree should be confined within the narrowest constitutional limits, only retaining the obligation, the induction into the oriental chair, and the communication of the means of recognition. [Pro. 1856. Reprint of pro., p. 393. Pro, 1889, p. 82.]

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13. Sec. 43 of the constitution of the General Grand Chapter providing that "no chapter under this jurisdiction shall confer "the degrees on any candidate previously rejected by any other chapter without the consent of such rejecting chapter, provided such chapter be in existence," does not apply to subordinate chapters working under a State Grand Chapter, unless the latter should make it effective by legislation. [Pro. 1894, p. 53.]

14. In the matter of a brother residing within the jurisdiction of one of our subordinate chapters, who, upon a visit to Scotland, his native land, was there exalted to the degree of a Royal Arch Mason, it is the opinion of your committee that whilst the chapter of his residence may complete his qualifications as a Royal Arch Mason by conferring upon him such intermediate degrees as are not conferred in a foreign land, yet that the practice of a brother leaving the place of his residence and obtaining exaltation abroad is one which deserves the strongest disfavor, and that the Royal Arch Mason thus made ought (unless satisfactory reasons to the contrary appear) to be denied the privilege of visitation. [Pro. 1894, p. 128.]

15. Where the *Constitution* of a *Grand Chapter* expressly authorizes the conferring of degrees on ministers of God, without charge, it can be done lawfully. [Pro. 1897, pp. 26, 173.]

16. In the case of a Mark, constructed in part of "initials per a certain Key," inscribed correctly as to instructions, but incorrectly as to intention, through erroneous explanation of the Key by the High Priest.

Held that the intention should prevail, and the inscription be made to comply therewith. [Pro. 1897, pp. 27, 173.]

See MEETINGS, 7; QUORUM, 1, 3, 5; ROYAL AND SELECT MASTER, 1-5; SIDE DEGREES; WORK, 2.

DIMIT.

1. Before a charter is issued to any chapter in this

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jurisdiction, each companion thereof shall present a dimit from the chapter of which he was previously a member. [Pro. 1883, p. 91.]

2. A companion may withdraw from the membership of his chapter on giving personal or written notice of such desire and intention at a stated convocation, provided no charges are pending against him and his indebtedness to the chapter is fully discharged. [Pro. 1886, p. 126]

3. A member of a chapter having dimitted from his lodge, "What must be done?"

Held that "In the absense of a by-law of the chapter requiring that its members shall be lodge affiliates, action on the part of the High Priest, to exclude, would not be proper." [Pro. 1897, pp. 25, 173.]

See CHARTERS, &c., 5.

DIPLOMAS.

1. All diplomas or certificates of same should bear the certificate of the General Grand Secretary that the chapter is under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter. [Pro. 1897, pp. 27, 173.]

2. In the case of loss of a diploma a certificate that the diploma had been issued and lost, should be given—not a duplicate diploma. [Pro. 1897, pp. 27, 173.]

DISCIPLINE.

1. A General Grand Secretary was expelled by resolution of the General Grand Chapter made to take effect "unless he pay over moneys in his hands belonging to the General Grand Chapter," and it was ordered that such expulsion should be announced by public notice. [Pro. 1835. Reprint of pro. p. 132. Pro. 1838, pp. 143-145.]

2. Expulsion from a lodge excludes from all masonic communication. [Pro. 1838, Pro. 1850. Reprint of pro., pp. 151, 269.]

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3. Expulsion by a lodge deprives the expelled member of every masonic right, not only in lodge but in chapter. After expulsion, for good cause the lodge may restore him to his masonic rights, and such restoration will make him a Master Mason in good standing, and thereby restore him to his rights as a Royal Arch Mason, except membership in his chapter. [Pro. 1874, pp. 26, 60.]

4. When the action of a lodge in case of discipline is reversed or annulled for any reason by competent authority, the party regains the status that he had at the commencement of the proceedings. [Pro. 1874. pp. 26, 60.]

5. A chapter must give to discipline by a lodge the same effect that it has under the laws of the Grand Lodge, and a chapter has no right to inquire into the regularity of the proceedings of the lodge; they must be taken as valid until reversed by competent authority. Chapters cannot fix the standing of Master Masons, but take them as made by the lodge and their standing as fixed by lodges. [Pro. 1874, pp. 25, 60. Pro. 1883, p. 23.]

6. A chapter cannot charge a fee for a dimit. (Pro. 1897, pp. 27, 173.)

7. No officer who has been duly elected and installed can dimit during his term, nor until his successor is duly elected and installed. [Pro. 1897, pp. 27, 173.]

DISPENSATION.

A Grand High Priest cannot annul the ordinary force of a law of the Grand Chapter unless the power to do so is expressly conferred upon him by the Grand Chapter. [Pro. 1883, p. 91.]

See CHAPTERS, 1; CHAPTERS, U.·.D.·., CHARTERS, &c., 6, 8; G.·.G.·. CHAPTER, 18.

DUES.

1. A chapter may compensate its Secretary for his services by an appropriation of its funds, but it cannot exempt

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him from the payment of dues on that account. [Pro. 1886, p. 126.]

2. A chapter may suspend the membership of a companion for the non-payment of dues, but only after due notice to him of such contemplated action and the vote of the chapter at a stated convocation. [Pro. 1886, p. 126.]

3. The dues of a member of a chapter accrue from the date of his exaltation or affiliation. [Pro. 1886, p. 126.]

4. "Is it lawful and constitutional to exempt ministers of God from the payment of annual dues, under a by-law of a subordinate chapter, approved by such Grand Chapter?"

Held that it is lawful, and being lawful, the part of the query as to constitutionality cannot apply if the constitution be silent on the subject.

The decision "Degrees, part 7," Digest of the G.·.G.·. Chapter, only applies directly to the immediate subordinates of the General Grand Chapter. [Pro. 1897, pp. 26, 173.]

See CHAPTERS, U. D., 13; SUSPENSION.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

It is not deemed appropriate for the General Grand Chapter to give aid toward the establishment of educational institutions; it approves of education and of all proper means designed for its promotion, but the creation of institutions for such purpose, their regulation and support are matters beyond the purposes and without the power of the General Grand Chapter. It has no funds or means to obtain them which could be applied to such purposes. [Pro. 1838. Reprint of pro., p. 140. Pro. 1874, p. 63.]

EXPULSION.

See DISCIPLINE, 2, 3; RESTORATION.

FEES.

Fees and dues to the General Grand Chapter are payable in United States currency. [Pro. 1897, pp. 27, 173.]

See DEGREES, 7; DUES, 1.

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FUNERALS.

1. A chapter has a right to appear at a funeral conducted by a lodge of Master Masons when so invited, taking such position in the procession as may be assigned by the lodge having charge. [Pro. 1877, p. 89.]

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

1. The prevention of its meetings in 1812 by war did not destroy existence of General Grand Chapter. [Pro. 1816. Reprint of pro., p. 41. Pro. 1865, p. 4.]

2. A Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons cannot be legally formed in a state or territory of the United States of America without the consent General Grand Chapter. [Pro. 1826. Reprint of pro., pp. 84, 5, 6, and 7.]

3. The General Grand Chapter will not recognize the legality of a Grand Chapter formed by chapters not legally created. [Pro. 1844. Reprint of pro., p. 190. Pro. 1847. Reprint of pro., p. 233; Cons., Sec. 23.]

4. The Grand Chapter of South Carolina could not legally establish a chapter of Royal Arch Masons at St. Augustine, Florida. [Pro. 1844. Reprint of pro., p. 191.]

5. The General Grand Chapter cannot receive any document purporting to be a complaint against a Grand Chapter. (Pro. 1856. Reprint of pro., p. 378.)

6. The General Grand Chapter cannot proceed with business till after the Committee on Credentials has reported, or has in some way determined who are members thereof entitled to vote. [Pro. 1859, p. 9.]

7. That the authority of the General Grand Chapter of right obtains, and is in force in such portions of the United States as are not provided with a legal Grand Chapter, has been asserted and assumed from A. D., 1798. [Pro. 1868, p. 36.]

8. The General Grand Chapter was convened at Columbus, Ohio, September 7, 1865, by direction of Albert G.

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Mackey, General Grand High Priest, six years after its last triennial meeting at Chicago, during which period the war of the rebellion had been waged and peace restored to the country, said meeting being called by notice communicated to its constituents by publication. [Pro. 1865, p. 4, and see pro. 1816. Reprint of pro., p. 41.]

9. The General Grand Chapter has never ceased to exist since its organization. [Pro. 1871, p. 37.]

10. It has authority to determine all questions in regard to the work. [Pro. 1871, p. 37.]

11. Officers of Grand and Subordinate Chapters at their installation and candidates are required to bind themselves to support the constitution of the General Grand Chapter. [Pro. 1871, p. 37.]

12. The jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter over a territory of the United States of America in which no Grand Chapter has been formed is exclusive. [Pro. 1877, pp. 19, 89.]

13. The General Grand Chapter having declared the charter of a subordinate chapter forfeited, it would be error in its officers to recognize its legal existence thereafter, although facts came to their knowlege which led them to believe that the General Grand Chapter had acted under a mistaken impression as to the real facts controlling its action. The remedy should be sought in memorializing the General Grand Chapter or in obtaining a new dispensation or charter. [Pro. 1889, p. 80.]

14. The General Grand Chapter has no jurisdiction in the State of Pennsylvania. [Pro. 1856. Reprint of pro. p. 390.]

15. Indian Territory is under jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, and State Grand Chapters have no jurisdiction therein. [Pro. 1886, pp. 42, 120.]

16. The General Grand Chapter declares its intention to adhere to its former habit of non- intervention in foreign

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states and their institutions. It will not authorize the organization of chapters there, nor intervene in their management or control. [Pro. 1886, p. 96.]

17. The original compact between every Grand Chapter and the General Grand Chapter was made at the request of one with the assent of the other; being mutual it can only be severed by mutual consent. There is no reserved right of withdrawal. [Pro. 1859, p. 35. Pro. 1868, p. 28.]

18. Under the constitution of the General Grand Chapter the by-law of a State Grand Chapter, within the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter which gave to the Deputy Grand High Priest power to grant dispensations for the formation of chapters, notwithstanding the Grand High Priest was within the state and able to discharge such duty, is in conflict with the constitution of the General Grand Chapter and necessarily void. [Pro. 1886, pp. 121, 122.]

19. The powers of the General Grand Chapter are derived from the respective Grand Chapters. [Pro. 1856. Reprint of pro., p. 388.]

20. The General Grand Chapter cannot adopt a resolution binding at its next convocation without incorporating it into the constitution. [Pro. 1877, pp. 89, 90.]

See APPEAL, 2, 3; CHAPTERS UNDER DISPENSATION, 8, 11, 12, 13; CHARTERS, &c., 4; DEGREES, 8, 11; EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION; GRAND CHAPTERS, 1, 4, 5, 8; HIGH PRIESTHOOD, 1; INSTALLATION; MEETINGS, 1, 2, 3; OFFICERS, 5; ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS, 2, 3, 4; VOTES, 1, 2; WORK, 1.

GENERAL GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

1. He has no power to change the place of the convocation of the General Grand Chapter fixed by the General Grand Chapter, and no power to change the time of the convocation, unless there shall be danger of life or health in holding the convocation at the appointed time. [Pro. 1874, pp. 27, 60.]

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2. The General Grand High Priest has no power to grant to a chapter, immediately subordinate to the General Grand Chapter, a dispensation authorizing the reconsideration of a ballot upon the petition of a candidate. [Pro. 1891, p. 43.]

3. No provision of the constitution authorizes the appointment of a Deputy Grand High Priest for China. [Pro. 1894, p. 53.]

See APPEAL, 3; CHAPTERS UNDER DISPENSATION, 1–6.

GRAND CHAPTERS.

1. Three subordinate chapters (one of them under dispensation) unite and, without authority therefor from the General Grand Chapter, form a Grand Chapter; their work held to be illegal. [Pro. 1844. Reprint of pro., p. 193.]

2. When the subordinate chapters under a Grand Chapter, except one, cease to exist, the powers of the Grand Chapter are lost and its existence terminates. [Pro. 1844. Reprint of pro. p. 194.]

3. As to what circumstances may terminate the existence of a Grand Chapter. [See pro. 1844. Reprint of pro., p. 195.]

4. All Grand Chapters which failed to meet in consequence of the war, declared to be in good standing in General Grand Chapter, and entitled to continue their relation with it. [Pro. 1865, p. 27.]

5. When a convention of delegates from chapters, assembled to form a Grand Chapter, adopts a constitution and by-laws, elects Grand Officers, and the Grand Chapter is constituted, the convention is *functus officio*, its powers passing to the Grand Chapter thus organized under the limitations of the constitution. [Pro. 1877, pp. 18, 89.]

6. A Grand Chapter has the right to limit the qualifications of candidates for the office of High Priest. [Pro. 1883, p. 91.]

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7. There is no authority for chapters in two states or territories to unite and form a Grand Chapter. [Pro. 1874, pp. 15, 60.]

8. The constitution of the General Grand Chapter does not require Grand Chapters to admit Past High Priests to membership therein, but permits it under constitutional enactment. [Pro. 1883, pp. 69, 90.]

9. The Grand Chapter of the Indian Territory has full and perfect jurisdiction, as a Grand Chapter, within the territorial limits assigned to it at the time of its organization—that is to say, within the whole of the Indian Territory, as it existed at the time when the Grand Chapter was created; and the Act of Congress, by which the Indian Territory was divided and the Territory of Oklahoma formed, did not divide and could not divide the masonic jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of the Indian Territory. [Pro. 1891, p. 41.]

10. A Grand Chapter is, and of right should be, the final arbiter of all questions arising within its jurisdiction (excepting such questions as may be taken to the General Grand Chapter), and, subject only to the restrictions of the constitution of the General Grand Chapter, and the force of the Ancient Landmarks, it has the power to make and unmake all the law for the government of Royal Arch Masonry within its territoy. [Pro. 1891, p. 41.]

11. A ruling made under the law of the General Grand Chapter (see pp. 321, 328, reprint, and p. 91, pro. 1883), that a Grand High Priest cannot dispense with a law of his Grand Chapter in the absence of constitutional authority so to do, giving rise to adverse criticism by eminent companions, an opinion was solicited by the Grand High Priest on the matter, to which I responded as follows:

"It is true, as suggested by the several distinguished companions of your Grand Chapter, that the legislation of the General Grand Chapter is advisory to State Grand Chapters, and not mandatory on them, and that a State Grand Chapter 'subject only to the restrictions of the con-

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stitution of the General Grand Chapter, and the binding force of the Ancient Landmarks,' has the power to make and unmake all the laws for the government of Royal Arch Masonry within its territory (vide decision of the, then, General Grand High Priest, Companion DAVID F. DAY, p. 42, pro. G.·.G.·.Chapter, 1891, and approved by the General Grand Chapter, p. 135, pro. 1891), but high regard is certainly due to the assembled wisdom of the Royal Craft in its National Body, even if its declarations are not enforced by disciplinary power, and a Grand High Priest, who has solemnly promised to maintain and support the constitution and regulations of the General Grand Chapter, and, inferentially, its expositions of Capitular law, would find it impracticable to justify his disobedience of them.

"It is obvious, of course, that your Grand Chapter, by constitutional provision, can clothe its Grand High Priest with authority to grant dispensations in his discretion, or extend the limit, specifically, but under the conditions which confronted you there was, in my judgment, no other proper course than that which you pursued." [Pro. 1897, pp. 27, 173.

See APPEAL, 1, 2; CHAPTERS, U. D., 12; CHARTERS, &c., 2, 3; DISPENSATION; GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER, 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, 13, 17; OFFICERS, 5; PAST HIGH PRIESTS.

GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.

The General Grand Chapter constitution does not provide that a Grand High Priest must be a Past High Priest, but leaves it to Grand Chapters to fix the qualifications of their officers. [Pro. 1874, p. 27; Cons., Sec. 24.]

See DISPENSATION; OFFICERS, 5.

HIGH PRIESTS.

1. A subordinate chapter has not power to entertain charges against its High Priest, or to try him on charges preferred, expel him from membership, or remove him from office; such a proceeding is unprecedented and unmasonic. [Pro. 1844. Reprint of pro., p. 196.]

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2. A High Priest holds his office until his successor is elected and installed. [Pro. 1889, p. 80.]

3. No general capitular law requires the High Priest of a chapter to have served as King or Scribe. Grand Chapters, however, have the right to limit the qualifications. (See Digest, GRAND CHAPTERS, 6.) [Pro. 1894, p. 54.]

See COMMITTEES, 1; GRAND CHAPTER, 6; MINUTES, 2; SUBSTITUTES, 2.

HIGH PRIESTHOOD.

1. It is not competent for the General Grand Chapter to define the duties or powers of a council of High Priests. [Pro. 1853. Reprint of pro. pp. 318, 327.]

2. It is not necessary to receive the Order of High Priesthood to discharge the duties and powers of a presiding officer of a chapter. [Pro. 1853, Reprint of pro., pp., 319, 328.]

"HOLY ROYAL ARCH."

1. The use of the word "Holy" as a prefix to the words "Royal Arch" is inadmissible. (Pro. 1886, p. 126.)

INSTALLATION.

1. The officers of the General Grand Chapter may be installed in public. [Pro. 1850. Reprint of pro., p. 269.]

2. The installation of a King-elect performed without the body of the chapter is null and void. (Pro. 1897, pp. 26, 173.)

3. To doubt expressed as to the legality of the installation of officers, named in the charter and not elected after the charter is received. See 9, charters and dispensations, Digest 1891.

Held that this apparent requirement, per Digest, grows out of a decision by Companion ENGLISH, but not having been confirmed by the General Grand Chapter (see pp. 15, 88, pro. G.·. G.·. Chapter, 1877), did not, in my opinion,

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obtain the force of law; in addition, the ceremonial for constituting a chapter (see pp. 295, 296, pro. G.·. G.·. Chapter, 1891) distinctly provides for the installation of the officers as named in the charter. (Pro. 1897, pp. 26, 173.)

JURISDICTION.

1. A candidate must apply for the chapter degrees to the chapter having jurisdiction over the territory where his legal residence—the place of his citizenship, his fixed place of abode—is; and without regard to the location of the lodge of which he is a member. (Pro. 1877, p. 23)

2. A chapter has power to waive jurisdiction over its material. It cannot confer that power on its principal officers or either of them. (Pro. 1886, p. 126.)

3. The jurisdiction of a chapter is determined by actual distance, and there is no law of the General Grand Chapter permitting interference by the General Grand High Priest on the basis of convenience of travel. (Pro. 1894, p. 52.)

See CANDIDATES; DEGREES; GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER, 14, 15; HIGH PRIESTS. 1; ROYAL AND SELECT MASTER.

LODGE.

The proper designation of the King and Scribe in lodges of Mark Master, Past Master and Most Excellent Master Masons is Senior and Junior Grand Wardens. [Pro. 1898, p. 27.]

The committee were divided, and the General Grand Chapter took no action. *Ibid.*, p. 81.

See WORK, 2.

MEETINGS.

1. The council of the General Grand Chapter postponed the triennial meeting in September, 1832, to November 28, 1832, because of the prevalence of cholera. (Pro, 1832. Reprint of pro., p. 112.)

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2. The General Grand Chapter designated the place for its next triennial meeting and authorized the General Grand Council to fix the time thereof; the General Grand Council agreed upon and announced a time for the meeting, but thereafter being informed of difficulties which would embarrass and incommode the members of the General Grand Chapter announced another time, held that the whole matter was continuously in the power of the General Grand Council, and that the change of time was authorized. (Pro. 1889, p. 80; Cons., Sec. 5.)

3. The General Grand Chapter has never ceased to exist; the meeting at Columbus, Ohio, in 1865, was not a special convocation, but the regular triennial meeting which would have been held at Memphis in 1862, had not the war interrupted. (Pro. 1816. Reprint of pro., p. 41. Pro. 1871, pp. 17, 37.)

4. The meetings of a subordinate chapter are regular or special. The former are fixed by the by-laws and are held at stated intervals; the latter may be at the pleasure of the High Priest. (Pro. 1886, p. 121.)

5 No business can be transacted at a special meeting, except that for which the meeting was called, of which meeting and business the resident companions should have notice. (Pro. 1886, p. 121.)

6. There cannot be a secret or emergency meeting held by a portion of the members to the exclusion of another portion, and the admission of candidates at an emergency meeting is wrong. In electing candidates to receive degrees all the resident members should be notified; none should be kept in ignorance of names presented for degrees. (Pro. 1886, p. 121.)

7. Petitions for degrees and affiliation can only be received at a stated convocation and cannot be acted upon by ballot until a subsequent stated convocation; no emergency will justify a different course. (Pro. 1886, p. 126.)

8. Verbal notice of special meetings and business to be

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transacted, given at a convocation of a chapter, is a legal and sufficient notice to those companions who are present. (Pro. 1894, p. 54.)

See CHARGES; GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER, 1, 8; GENERAL GRAND HIGH PRIEST, 1; GRAND CHAPTERS, 4; QUORUM.

MEMBERSHIP.

1. Dual membership is illegal. (Pro. 1883, pp. 21, 22; Cons., Sec. 39.)

2. In case of a member of a chapter "deprived of all rights and privileges, except the right of petition," by failure to petition for affiliation as required by the law of the Grand Lodge.

Held that a member of a chapter deprived of his rights and privileges, as a Master Mason under a Grand Lodge law, cannot be continued as a member in good standing, whilst such disability exists. (Pro. 1897, pp. 26, 173.)

See AFFILIATION; CANDIDATES, 1, 2; CHAPTERS, U. D., 9; DEGREES, 5; DIMITS, 2; DISCIPLINE, 3, 5; DUES, 2; HIGH PRIESTS, 1; PAST HIGH PRIESTS; RESTORATION; SUSPENSION.

MINUTES.

1. The records of a chapter should embrace the names and official titles of the officers present at each convocation, and the names of all members and visitors in attendance. (Pro. 1886, p. 126.)

2. The minutes of the proceedings of every convocation should be read and approved before closing the chapter, and the full record thereof read and adopted at the next stated convocation and should be signed by the High Priest and Secretary. (Pro. 1886, p. 126.)

OBJECTION.

1. A member not present when a unanimous ballot has been taken, but coming in subsequently and objecting, the

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case must be re-committed and a further unanimous ballot had. (Pro. 1856, p. 384.)

2. When objection is made to a candidate by a companion after ballot and the objection stated to the chapter, the matter should be referred to a committee, and on the report of such committee, decided by the chapter by a majority vote. (Pro. 1886, pp. 46, 120.)

3. Among the by-laws of Helena Chapter, No. 2, Montana, was the following: "A candidate elected to this chapter shall be considered as elected to all the degrees; but the advancement of any candidate may be stopped by the objection of any member." It appeared that a brother who had received the degree of Mark Master in this chapter, had had his progress stopped by the written objection of a companion, as follows: "I wish herewith to enter "my objection to his further advancement, now or at any other time." It also appeared that the by-laws of Helena Chapter did not define the length of time during which an objection of this character would be operative. The question asked was how long such objection would remain effectual.

Held:—That it would be competent for a Chapter to adopt a by-law which would limit and define the period during which such objection would remain a bar to the candidate's further advancement; but in the absence of such an express provision, the question must be answered according to the analogy which the case presents to that of the rejection of a candidate by ballot; and that as the General Grand Chapter had already determined (See pro. 1889, pp. 80 and 81) that six months must elapse after the rejection of a candidate before his petition can be again considered, such an objection as had been interposed in this case had not and ought not to have any greater force than an unfavorable ballot; and that when the length of time thus perscribed by the General Grand Chapter in the case of a rejected petition has elapsed after making of the objection, the chapter may proceed to confer the degrees upon the brother—subject to a renewal of the objection. [Pro. 1891, p. 43.]

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4. In the matter of objections to advancement of a candidate, after election, being withdrawn by one objector and adhered to by another on the ground of doubt as to permanent removal of the cause, held,

That should the companion still refuse to withdraw his objection, such objection should be duly regarded. [Pro. 1894, p. 128.]

An objection is valid when made by a companion to the advancement of a brother, if it is simply lodged as such, without any reason or ground given therefor. [Pro. 1894, p. 52.]

All objections made to one High Priest by a companion continue in force as far as his successor is concerned, until withdrawn or disposed of according to law. [Pro. 1894, p. 52.

OFFICERS.

1. In the event of the death of the General Grand High Priest, the next officer, *i. e.*, the deputy General Grand High Priest becomes an acting General Grand High Priest, but does not acquire the rank or title of the presiding officer. [Pro. 1883, pp. 72, 91.]

2. The duties of a Treasurer are defined, by immemorial usage, to be, to receive, safely keep and pay out on order the funds entrusted to his care, and this notwithstanding there is no written regulation on the subject. [Pro. 1841. Reprint of pro., p. 160.]

3. The title is Secretary, and not Recorder. [Pro. 1853. Reprint of pro., p. 330.]

4. The funds of the General Grand Chapter must be paid immediately to the Treasurer; he is the only legitimate depository of the funds of the General Grand Chapter. [Pro. 1853. Reprint of pro., p. 327.]

5. Officers of State Grand Chapters possess no powers except such as are expressly conferred by constitutional authority. [Pro. 1853. Reprint of pro., p. 321.]

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See APPEAL, 1; CHAPTERS, 2; CHARTERS, &c., 1, 8; DISPENSATION; HIGH PRIESTS, 1, 2; LODGE; RANK, 1, 3; WORK, 1.

PAST HIGH PRIESTS.

When a Grand Chapter, pursuant to paragraph 4, Section 24 of the constitution of the General Grand Chapter, admits Past High Priests to membership, it must and does admit them on an equal footing with all other members. [Pro. 1886, pp. 47, 120.]

See CHAPTERS, 2; GRAND CHAPTERS, 8; GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.

PAST MASTERS.

See DEGREES, 8, 9, 10, 12.

PROXY.

1. It was decided that no compensation would be allowed a member of the General Grand Chapter for attendance as proxy of a General Grand Officer. [Pro. 1826. Reprint of pro., p. 91.]

2. The provisions of paragraphs 4 and 5, of Section 2, of the constitution, authorizing the appointment of proxies, constitute a personal privilege, which must be exercised by the officer whom the proxy represents. [Pro. 1886, p. 118.]

3. The authority of a proxy to act as such must be in writing, and signed by the officer making the appointment. [Pro. 1886, p. 118.]

4. It is not necessary that the authority of a proxy of a Grand Officer should be authenticated by the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter, nor that the proxy of a subordinate chapter be authenticated by the Secretary of the subordinate chapter; such authentication, though not necessary, is recommended when it can be obtained conveniently. [Pro. 1886, p. 118.]

5. There is no law of the General Grand Chapter

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which authorizes members of a chapter to vote on proxies given by absent members. [Pro. 1897, pp. 25, 173.]

6. In the matter of vacancy in the Council of Grand Officers of a Grand Chapter, caused by death.

Held that it was within the province of the Grand High Priest to appoint to said vacancy any affiliated Royal Arch Mason of his jurisdiction, to serve as representative to the General Grand Chapter.

The Committee on Jurisprudece in their report, which was adopted by the Grand Chapter, says:

We do not think that this decision is a correct exposition of the rule which we regard as applicable to such a case. There could be no proxy for one dead; but, if permitted to do so by the law of his Grand Chapter, the proper course would be for the Grand High Priest to fill the vacancy created by the death of an officer, it being obvious that giving a proxy is a personal privilege which can be exercised only by the individual who actually holds the office for the time being, and not by another—and in this view we think we are sustained by Section 9 of the Constitution. [Pro. 1897, pp. 29, 173.]

QUORUM.

1. For all purposes except opening and closing a chapter and conferring degrees, nine members of the chapter are necessary to constitute a quorum. [Pro. 1877, p. 96.]

2. Nine Royal Arch Masons are necessary to open any of the bodies under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, but five (amended in 1883, p. 61, to read eight) may work as a lodge of Mark Masters, seven as a lodge of Past Masters, and seven as a lodge of Most Excellent Masters. [Pro. 1877, pp. 96, 98. Pro. 1883, p. 61.]

3. A ballot for degrees or membership cannot be taken unless there are present at least nine members of the chapter entitled to vote. [Pro. 1877, pp. 22, 89, 96.]

4. The decision of ENGLISH, G.·. G.·. H.·. P.·., that

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it is not necessary for nine ballots to be cast upon an application (pro. 1877, p. 22), disapproved. [Pro. 1877, p. 89.]

5. Nine members constitute a quorum; nine members must be present for all purposes except opening, closing and conferring degrees. [Pro. 1880, p. 73. Pro. 1886, p. 47, and see constitution, Section 44.]

PHYSICAL QUALIFICATIONS.

See CANDIDATES, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.

RANK.

1. The Treasurer outranks the Secretary. [Pro. 1853. Reprint of pro. p. 332.]

2. At masonic funerals the lodge conducting the services is the ranking body. [Pro. 1877, p. 27.]

3. Installation is necessary to confer rank. [Pro. 1883, pp. 71, 91.]

4. The officers in Capitular Freemasonry are entitled and take rank as follows:

In the Mark Master's Lodge, a Master, whose title shall be Right Worshipful, and a Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Secretary, Treasurer, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Master Overseer, Senior Overseer, Junior Overseer and Tyler, whose titles shall be brother.

In the Past Master's Lodge, a Master, whose title shall be Right Worshipful, and a Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Secretary, Treasurer, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon and Tyler, whose titles shall be brother.

In the Most Excellent Master's Lodge, a Master, whose title shall be Right Worshipful, and a Senior Warden, Secretary, Treasurer, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon and Tyler, whose titles shall be brother.

In the chapter, a High Priest, whose title shall be Excellent, a King, Scribe, Secretary, Treasurer, Captain of the Host, Principal Sojourner, Royal Arch Captain, Master

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of 3d Vail, Master of 2d Vail, Master of 1st Vail, and Sentinel, whose titles shall be Companion.

The rank in the Royal Arch degree determines the rank in the lodges; the Captain of the Host acting as Master of Ceremonies in the floor work.

In a Grand Chapter, a Grand High Priest, whose title shall be Most Excellent, a Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, whose titles shall be Right Excellent, and a Grand Chaplain, Grand Captain of the Host, Grand Principal Sojourner, Grand Royal Arch Captain, Grand Master of the 3d Vail, Grand Master of the 2d Vail, Grand Master of the 1st Vail, and Grand Sentinel, whose titles shall be Excellent.

The title of all officers of the General Grand Chapter is companion.

All Past Officers retain their titles. [Pro. 1891, pp. 148, 149.]

5. The constitution of the General Grand Chapter determines that the Treasurer ranks the Secretary, and is paramount to the resolution of 1891. [Pro. 1894, pp, 53, 131.

RESIDENCE.

The residence of the family of a married man is usually and therefore *prima facie* his residence. [Pro. 1886, pp. 45, 46.]

RESTORATION.

Restoration by lodge does not restore to membership in chapter. [Pro. 1874, pp. 26, 60.]

See DISCIPLINE, 3.

REVERSAL.

1. The effect of the reversal in Grand Lodge of the decision or judgment of the subordinate lodge is to annul the same and leave the parties affected thereby to stand as they

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did before such judgment was rendered; the ultimate or final judgment alone prevails. [Pro. 1874, pp. 26, 60.]

See DISCIPLINE, 4, 5.

RITUAL.

1. The use of substitutes is not a violation of the ritual or of the installation charges delivered to a High Priest, but they should be used only to complete a class when necessary. [Pro. 1871, p. 36. Pro. 1874, p. 61. Pro. 1886, pp. 42, 46.]

2. The General Grand Chapter has authority to determine all questions in relation to the work. [Pro. 1871, p. 37.]

3. It is the duty of the first four officers to perfect themselves in the work of the degrees, and to prescribe the mode of work for the subordinate chapters. [Pro. 1826. Reprint of pro., p. 81.]

4. Dependent lodges cannot be declared opened or closed. Chapters are not called from labor to refreshment until the next regular convocation, nor do they call to refreshment for the purpose of changing from one degree to another; they dispense with and resume labor. [Pro. 1877, p. 93.]

5. Dependent lodges should not be opened, at stated convocations, until the chapter is first opened and dispensed with; after the work of the depedent lodges is accomplished, they should be closed, and the chapter resume labor and be closed in form. [Pro. 1894, p. 128.]

RANK, 4.

ROYAL ARCH DEGREE.

The use of substitutes is not a violation of the ritual or of the installation charges delivered to a High Priest; they should be used only to complete a class when necessary. [Pro. 1871, p. 36. Pro. 1874, p. 61. Pro. 1886, pp. 42, 46.]

ROYAL AND SELECT MASTER—DEGREES OF.

1. In 1844, chapters were permitted to confer the degrees of Royal Master and Select Master after the Royal

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Arch, in states where no Grand Council existed. [Pro. 1829. Pro. 1844. Reprint of Pro., p. 96. Reprint of Pro., p. 198. But see Pro. 1850. Reprint of Pro., p. 281.]

2. The General Grand Chapter has no jurisdiction over the degrees of Royal Master and Select Master, and it is inexpedient for the General Grand Chapter to take any action concerning them. [Pro., 1850. Reprint of Pro., p. 281. Pro. 1880, p. 71.]

3. It is not competent for the General Grand Chapter to take any action on the subject of forming a Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters. [Pro. 1853, p. 317.]

4. The General Grand Chapter has no jurisdiction over the degrees of Royal and Select Master, and will not entertain questions on matters growing out of the government or working of them. [Pro. 1850. Reprint of Pro., p. 281. Pro. 1853. Reprint of Pro., p. 317. Pro. 1880, p. 71. Pro. 1889, p. 81.]

5. A Chapter under dispensation, claiming jurisdiction over the degrees of Royal and Select Master, is not entitled to a charter. [Pro. 1853, p. 320.]

6. To query, in substance, by a Grand High Priest, whether his Grand Chapter was doing right in exercising jurisdiction over the degrees of Royal and Select Masters, I replied:

"I do not feel at liberty to express an opinion other than may be inferred from the legislation of the General Grand Chapter on the subject, as published in its transactions, 1853; Reprint of Pro., p. 317; Pro. 1880, p. 71; Pro. 1889, pp. 31, 81.

"I may add, however, that I would that every Grand Chapter now exercising control over the Cryptic Degrees would prohibit the conferring of any degrees, by their subordinates, other than Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch, as did Maryland in 1872.

"There are now thirty-five State Grand Councils in the

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United States, besides Grand Councils in Canada, New Brunswick and England. Twenty-two of the State Grand Councils are constituents of the General Grand Council.

"I have long wondered why your State does not concede to the great majority correctness of conclusion as to the best interests of the Cryptic Rite, and join therewith in the advancement of those interests, both at home and abroad, as she always has so notably done in the other branches of Masonry."

The Committee on Jurisprudence in their report which was adopted by the General Grand Chapter, says:

We concur in the views expressed in the opinion emphasizing the fact that the latter is to be regarded merely as an opinion as to the best form of government of the Royal and Select Master's degrees, and not to be held as a precedent for the government of those Grand Chapters which authorize the conferring of those degrees by their chapters. Your committee do not understand that any change in the policy of the General Grand Chapter heretofore prevailing in regard to these degrees is suggested, and agree that it should continue to decline to exercise any jurisdiction over them. [Pro. 1897, pp. 28, 173.]

SIDE DEGREES.

No Royal Arch Mason within the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter is permitted to confer any degree not recognized as a constitutional degree by the General Grand Chapter, nor to establish any society of Masons not recognized as a constitutional body. [Pro. 1826. Reprint of Pro., p. 87.]

SUBSTITUTES.

1. A resolution ordering "literal construction" was laid on the table in 1847. [Pro. 1847. Reprint of Pro., p. 226.]

2. The use of substitutes is not a violation of the ritual or of the installation charges delivered to a High Priest;

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but they should be used only to complete a class when necessary. [Pro. 1871, p. 36. Pro. 1874, p. 61. Pro. 1886, pp. 42, 46.]

3. The action of the General Grand Chapter with reference to substitutes is not mandatory but permissive. Grand Chapters may permit or probibit their use. [Pro. 1874, p. 25.]

4. Substitutes can be used to complete a class of three in the Royal Arch degree whenever the necessities of the work require it. Such substitute should be prepared as though he were a *bona fide* candidate. [Pro. 1871, p. 36. Pro. 1874, p. 61. Pro. 1886, pp. 42, 46.]

SUMMONS.

When a summons has been issued by vote of the chapter and a companion has failed to appear in obedience thereto, it is proper for the chapter to order that notice be given to the companion to appear in the chapter at some time, which should be stated, and show cause why charges should not be preferred against him for disobeying the summons. [Pro. 1894, p. 129.]

SUSPENSION.

The effect of suspension for non-payment of dues of a member of a chapter by his lodge must be determined by the laws of the Grand Lodge. If its effect is suspension from membership only, his standing in his chapter is not affected, but if it is from all masonic rights, he loses his standing as a Royal Arch Mason. [Pro. 1850, p. 269. Pro. 1874, pp. 25, 26.]

See DUES, 2.

TREASURER.

See OFFICERS, 2, 4; RANK, 1.

VOTES.

1. An officer of the General Grand Chapter who is at the same time an officer of a State Grand Chapter is entitled

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to two votes in the General Grand Chapter by virture of the said offices. [Pro. 1826. Reprint of pro., p. 84.]

2. When a time is fixed for the election of officers of the General Grand Chapter it is not regular to hold the election at any other time, without reconsidering the vote establishing the time. [Pro. 1850. Reprint of pro., p. 260.]

See BALLOT.

WORK.

1. It is the duty of the first four officers of the General Grand Chapter to perfect themselves in the work of the degrees, and to prescribe the mode of work for the subordinate chapters. [Pro. 1826. Reprint of pro., p. 81; cons., sec. 17.]

2. Dependent lodges cannot be declared opened or closed. Chapters are not called from labor to refreshment until the next regular convocation, nor do they call to refreshment for the purpose of changing from one degree to another. They dispense with and resume labor. [Pro. 1877, p. 93.]

See DEGREES, 1, 2, 3, 4; LODGE; SUBSTITUTES; RITUAL, 4, 5.

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MICHIGAN

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ADOPTED BY

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OF

ROYAL ARCH MASONS

OF MICHIGAN.

PUBLISHED BY THE GRAND CHAPTER

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JEFFERSON S. CONOVER,

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ADOPTED BY THE

GRAND CHAPTER R. A. M. OF MICHIGAN

JANUARY 16, 1900.

"We hereby recommend that the Grand Secretary be authorized to publish a "Michigan Book of the Chapter", said book to contain the complete working monitorial work as now published in the ritual, (as but two rituals are furnished to each constituent chapter we believe that it would often-times be found convenient to have access to additional copies of the monitorial work), "Ceremonial for constituting new chapters," "Ceremonial for the annual installation of the officers of a chapter," "Ceremonial for the installation of the officers of the Grand Chapter," "Ceremonial for the reception of Grand Officers at visitations," "Ceremonial for general visitations," the various blank forms adopted by this Grand Chapter, the constitution of the General Grand Chapter of R. A. M. of the United States of America, the constitution of the Grand Chapter of R. A. M. of Michigan, By-laws and Rules of Order of the Grand Chapter of Michigan, Penal Code, Edicts and Rulings of the Grand Chapter of Michigan and the Digest of the Decisions of the General Grand Chapter R. A. M. of the United States of America."

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Committee.

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MICHIGAN
CHAPTER MONITOR.

CHAPTER I.

LESSON TO BE READ AT OPENING.

Wherefore, brethren, lay aside all malice, and guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings.

If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious, to whom coming as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious; ye also as living stones, be ye built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up sacrifices acceptable to God.

Wherefore, also, it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Zion, for a foundation, a tried stone, a precious corner-stone, a sure foundation; he that believeth, shall not make haste to pass it over. Unto you, therefore, which believe, it is an honor; and even to them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner.

Brethren, this is the will of God, that with well doing ye put to silence the ignorance of foolish men. As free, and not using your liberty for a cloak of maliciousness, but as servants of God. Honor all men; love the brotherhood; fear God.

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PRAYER.

Supreme Grand Architect of the Universe, who sitteth on the throne of mercy, deign to view our labors in the cause of virtue and humanity with the eye of compassion; purify our hearts and cause us to know and serve Thee aright. Guide us in the paths of rectitude and honor; correct our errors by the unerring square of thy wisdom, and enable us so to practice the precepts of Masonry, that all our actions may be acceptable in thy sight. Amen.

So mote it be.

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RECEPTION.

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The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner.

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Did ye never read in the Scriptures. The stone which the builders rejected is become the head of the corner?

* * *

And have you not read this Scripture, The stone which the builders rejected is become the head of the corner?

* * * *

What is this, then, that is written, The stone which the builders rejected is become the head of the corner?

* * *

To him that overcometh, will I give to eat of the hidden manna; and I will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth, saving he that receiveth it.

* * *

Then he brought me back the way of the gate of the outward sanctuary, which looketh toward the east, and it

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was shut. And the Lord said unto me, Son of man, mark well, and behold with thine eyes and hear with thine ears, all that I say unto thee, concerning all the ordinances of the house of the Lord, and all the laws thereof; and mark well the entering in of the house, with every going forth of the sanctuary.

This, you will observe, forms an inverted M, and a W, and alludes to that portion of scripture just given.

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THE WORKING TOOLS.

The Chisel morally demonstrates the advantages of discipline and education. The mind, like the diamond in its original state, is rude and unpolished; but as the effect of the chisel on the external coat soon presents to view the latent beauties of the diamond, so education discovers the latent virtues of the mind, and draws them forth to range the large field of matter and space, to display the summit of human knowledge, our duty to God and to man.

The Mallet morally teaches us to correct irregularities, and to reduce man to a proper level; so that by quiet deportment, he may, in the school of discipline, learn to be content. What the mallet is to the workman, enlightened reason is to the passions; it curbs ambition, it depresses envy, it moderates anger, and it encourages good dispositions, whence arises among good Masons that comely order,

"Which nothing earthly gives or can destroy,
The soul's calm sunshine and the heartfelt joy."

* * *

CHARGE.

BROTHER, I congratulate you on having been thought worthy of being advanced to this honorary degree of Masonry. Permit me to impress it on your mind that your assiduity should ever be commensurate with your duties, which become more and more extensive as you advance in Masonry.

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In the honorable character of Mark Master Mason, it is more particularly your duty to endeavor to let your conduct in the lodge and among your brethren, be such as may stand the test of the Great Overseer's square; that you may not, like the unfinished and imperfect work of the negligent and unfaithful of former times, be rejected and thrown aside, as unfit for that spiritual building, that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

While such is your conduct, should misfortunes assail you, should friends forsake you, should envy traduce your good name, and malice persecute you, yet may you have confidence that among Mark Master Masons, you will find friends who will administer relief to your distresses and comfort to your afflictions, ever bearing in mind, as a consolation under all the frowns of fortune, and as an encouragement to hope for better prospects, that the stone which the builders rejected, possessing merits to them unknown, became the chief stone of the corner.

* * *

SCRIPTURE.

For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire laborers into his vineyard. And when he had agreed with the laborers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And he went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the market place, and said unto them, Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right, I will give you. And they went their way. And again he went out about the sixth and ninth hour, and did likewise. And about the eleventh hour, he went out and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle? They say unto him, Because no man hath hired us. He saith unto them, Go ye also into the vineyard and whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive. So when the even was come, the Lord of the vineyard saith unto his steward, Call the laborers, and give them their hire, beginning from the last unto the first. And when they came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they

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received every man a penny. But when the first came, they supposed that they should have received more, and they likewise received every man a penny. And when they received it, they murmured against the good man of the house, saying, These last have wrought but one hour, and thou hast made them equal unto us which have borne the burden and heat of the day. But he answered one of them and said, Friend, I do thee no wrong; didst thou not agree with me for a penny? Take that thine is, and go thy way; I will give unto this last even as unto thee. Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil because I am good? So the last shall be first and the first last; for many be called but few chosen.

CHAPTER II.

ANCIENT CHARGES.

I.—You agree to be a good man, and true, and strictly to obey the moral law.

II.—You agree to be a peaceable citizen, and cheerfully to conform to the laws of the country in which you reside.

III.—You promise not to be concerned in plots and conspiracies against government, but patiently to submit to the decisions of the supreme legislature.

IV.—You agree to pay a proper respect to the civil magistrates, to work diligently, live creditably, and act honorably by all men.

V.—You agree to hold in veneration the original rulers and patrons of the Order of Masonry, and their regular successors, supreme and subordinate, according to their stations; and to submit to the awards and resolutions of your brethren, when convened, in every case consistent with the constitutions of the Order.

VI.—You agree to avoid private piques and quarrels, and guard against intemperance and excess.

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VII.—You agree to be cautious in carriage and behavior, courteous to your brethren, and faithful to your lodge.

VIII.—You promise to respect genuine brethren, and to discountenance imposters, and all dissenters from the original plan of Masonry.

IX.—You agree to promote the general good of society, to cultivate the social virtues, and to propagate the knowledge of the art.

X.—You promise to pay homage to the Grand Master for the time being, and to his officers when duly installed; and strictly to conform to every edict of the Grand Lodge, or general assembly of Masons, that is not subversive of the principles and groundwork of Masonry.

XI.—You admit that it is not in the power of any man, or body of men, to make innovations in the body of Masonry.

XII.—You promise a regular attendance on the committees and communications of the Grand Lodge, on receiving proper notice, and to pay attention to all the duties of Masonry, on convenient occasions.

XIII—You admit that no new lodge shall be formed without permission of the Grand Lodge, and that no countenance be given to an irregular lodge, or to any person clandestinely initiated therein, being contrary to the ancient charges of the Order.

XIV. You admit that no person can be regularly made a Mason in, or admitted a member of, any regular lodge, without previous notice, and due inquiry into his character.

XV.—You agree that no visitors shall be received into your lodge, without due examination, and producing proper vouchers of their having been initiated in a regular lodge.

These are the regulations of Free and Accepted Masons.

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Do you submit to these charges, and promise to support these regulations, as Masters have done in all ages before you?

* * *

To your care I commit this sacred volume, which contains the most important part of our ancient history, and without a knowledge of which, no man can be made a Mason.

You are to take in charge the Book of Constitutions, which contains rules and regulations for the good government of your lodge. With these it becomes your indispensable duty to make yourself intimately acquainted, as well as the members of your lodge. Cause it to be read in your lodge, that no one may pretend ignorance of the excellent precepts it contains.

You will also take in charge the By-laws of your lodge, and see that they are faithfully executed.

As a pattern for your imitation, you are to observe the sun, that great luminary of nature, which, rising in the east, regularly diffuses light and lustre to all within its circle. So in like manner, it becomes your indispensable duty to diffuse light and information to all the members of your lodge. Forcibly impress upon them the dignity and high character of Masonry, and seriously admonish them never to disgrace it.

* * *

ADMONITION.

Brother, when you was elected to this high and honorable station, it was supposed that you had so far made yourself familiar with the lectures and work in the preceding degrees, as to enable you to fill this chair as an intelligent Master, and thereby serve the true interest of the craft.

Here let me urge upon you a masonic duty. Make yourself fully acquainted with the lectures and work, and

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be thereby fitted to discharge the various duties with honor to yourself and brethren.

Never aspire to a station of trust and honor unless you feel a truthful confidence that you are equal to its demands.

* * *

CHARGE.

BROTHER:—The conferring at this time, of a degree which has no historical connection with the other capitular degrees, is an apparent anomaly, which, however, is indebted for its existence to the following circumstances:

Originally, when Royal Arch Masonry was under the government of symbolic lodges, in which the Royal Arch degree was then always conferred, it was a regulation that no one could receive it unless he had previously presided as the Master of that or some other lodge: and this restriction was made because the Royal Arch was deemed too important a degree to be conferred only on Master Masons.

But, as by confining the Royal Arch to those only who had been actually elected as the presiding officers of their lodges, the extension of the degree would have been materially circumscribed, and its usefulness greatly impaired, the Grand Master often granted, upon due petition, his dispensation to permit certain Master Masons, (although not elected to preside over their lodges,) "to pass the chair," which was a technical term, intended to designate a brief ceremony, by which the candidate was invested with the mysteries of a Past Master, and, like him, entitled to advance in Masonry as far as the Royal Arch, or the perfection and consummation of the third degree.

When, however, the control of the Royal Arch was taken from the symbolic lodges and entrusted to a distinct organization,—that, namely, of Chapters,—the regulation continued to be observed, for it was doubtful to many whether it could legally be abolished; and, as the law still requires that the sublime degree of Royal Arch shall be restricted to Past Masters, our candidates are made to pass

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the chair simply as a preparation and qualification toward being invested with the solemn instructions of the Royal Arch.

The ceremony of passing the chair or making you in this manner a Past Master, does not, however, confer upon you any official rank outside of the chapter, nor can you in a symbolic lodge, claim any peculiar privileges in consequence of your having received in the chapter, the investiture of the Past Master's degree.

Those who receive the degree in symbolic lodges as a part of the installation service, when elected to preside, have been properly called "Actual Past Masters," while those who pass through the ceremony in a chapter, as simply preparatory to taking the Royal Arch, are distinguished as "Virtual Past Masters," to show that with the investiture of the secrets, they haye not received the rights and prerogatives of the degree.

With this brief explanation of the reasons why this degree is now conferred upon you, and why you have been permitted to occupy the chair, you will retire and suffer yourself to be prepared for those further and profounder researches into Masonry, which can only be consummated in the Royal Arch degree.

CHAPTER III.

SCRIPTURE LESSON.

The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods. Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation. This is

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the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob: Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory? The Lord, strong and mighty; the Lord, mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates, even lift them up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory? The Lord of Hosts, he is the King of Glory.

* * *

RECEPTION.

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I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.

* *

Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together.

* * *

Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord.

* * * *

For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

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Pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces.

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For my brethren and companions' sake, I will now say, Peace be within thee. Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek thy good.

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PRAYER.

And now, O God OF ISRAEL, let thy word, I pray thee, be verified, which thou spakest unto thy servant David, my father. But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded. Yet have thou respect unto the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplication, O Lord my God, to hearken unto the cry and to the prayer which thy servant prayeth before thee to-day: that thine eyes may be open toward this house night and day, even toward the place of which thou hast said, My name shall be there; that thou mayest hearken unto the prayer which thy servant shall make toward this place. And hearken thou to the supplication of thy servant, and of thy people, Israel, when they shall pray toward this place; and hear thou in heaven, thy dwelling place; and when thou hearest, forgive. Amen.

So mote it be.

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Now when Solomon had made an end of praying, the fire came down from heaven, (—— ——) and consumed the burnt offering and sacrifices; and the glory of the Lord filled the house. And the priests could not enter into the house of the Lord, because the glory of the Lord had filled the Lord's house.

And when all the Children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the Lord upon the house, they bowed themselves with their faces to the ground upon the pavement, and worshiped, and praised the Lord, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth forever.

* * *

CHARGE.

BROTHER: Your admittance to this degree of Masonry is a proof of the good opinion the brethren of this lodge entertain of your masonic abilities. Let this consideration

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induce you to be careful of forfeiting, by misconduct and inattention to our rules, that esteem which has raised you to the rank you now possess.

It is one of your great duties as a Most Excellent Master, to dispense light and information to the uninformed Mason; and I need not remind you of the impossibility of complying with this obligation, without possessing an accurate acquaintance with the lectures of each degree.

If you are not already conversant in all the degrees heretofore conferred on you, remember, that an indulgence, prompted by a belief that you will apply yourself with double diligence to make yourself so, has induced the brethren to accept you.

Let it therefore be your unremitting study to acquire such a degree of knowledge and information as shall enable you to discharge with propriety, the various duties incumbent on you, and to preserve unsullied, the title now conferred upon you, of a MOST EXCELLENT MASTER.

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CLOSING SCRIPTURE LESSON.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures, he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; thou annointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

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CHAPTER IV.

LESSON READ AT OPENING.

Now we command you, brethren, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which ye received of us. For yourselves know how ye ought to follow us; for we behaved ourselves not disorderly among you. Neither did we eat any man's bread for nought, but wrought with labor and travail day and night that we might not be chargeable to any of you. Not because we have not power, but to make ourselves an ensample unto you to follow us. For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat; for we hear there are some who walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busy-bodies. Now them that are such, we command and exhort, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread. But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing. And if any man obey not our word, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother. Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace always.

* * *

PRAYER AT OPENING.

By the wisdom of the Supreme High Priest may we be directed; by his strength may we be enabled, and by the beauty of virtue may we be incited to perform the obligations here enjoined upon us; to keep inviolably the mysteries here unfolded to us; and invariably to practice all those duties out of the chapter, which are inculcated in it. Amen.

So mote it be.

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EDICT OF GRAND CHAPTER.

RESOLVED: That it shall be the duty of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest to arrest the charter of any subordinate chapter which shall permit the work, ritual, or ceremonies of our Order to be diverted into frivolous levity, cruelty, or undignified farce, or any other impropriety

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which may detract from their dignity or solemnity; and in carrying into execution this resolution, the Most Excellent Grand High Priest shall exercise no discretion of his own.

* * *

PRAYER AT ALTAR.

SUPREME ARCHITECT of the Universe, who, by thine Almighty Word, didst speak into being the stupendous arch of heaven, and for the instruction and pleasure of thy rational creatures, didst adorn us with greater and lesser lights, thereby magnifying thy power, and endearing thy goodness unto the sons of men: We humbly adore and worship thine unspeakable perfection. We bless thee, that when man had fallen from his innocence and happiness, thou didst leave him the powers of reasoning, and capacity of improvement and of pleasure. We thank thee that amidst the pains and calamities of our present state, so many means of refreshment and satisfaction are reserved to us, while traveling the rugged path of life; especially would we at this time, render thee our thanksgiving and praise for the institution, as members of which we are at this time assembled, and for all the pleasures we have derived from it. We thank thee that the few here assembled before thee have been favored with new inducements, and been laid under new and stronger obligations of virtue and holiness. May these obligations, O blessed Father! have their full effect upon us. Teach us, we pray thee, the true reverence of thy great, mighty, and terrible name. Inspire us with a firm and unshaken resolution in our various pursuits. Give us grace diligently to search thy word in the book of nature, wherein the duties of our high vocation are inculcated with divine authority. May the solemnity of the ceremonies of our institution be duly impressed on our minds, and have a happy and lasting effect on our lives. O thou, who didst aforetime appear unto thy servant Moses in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush, enkindle, we beseech thee, in each of our hearts, a flame of devotion to thee, of love to each other, and of charity to all mankind.

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May thy miracles and mighty works fill us with thy dread, and thy goodness impress us with a love of thy holy name! May "HOLINESS TO THE LORD" be engraven upon all our thoughts, words and actions! May the incense of piety ascend continually unto thee, from the altar of our hearts, and burn day and night, as a sacrifice of sweet smelling savor, well pleasing unto thee! And since sin has destroyed within us the first temple of purity and innocence, may thy heavenly grace guide and assist us in rebuilding a second temple of reformation, and may the glory of this latter house be greater than the glory of the former! Amen.

So mote it be.

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THE BURNING BUSH.

Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian; and he led the flock to the back side of the desert, and came to the mountain of GOD, even to Horeb. And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush, and he looked, and behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. And Moses said, I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.

And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, GOD called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses! Moses! And he said, Here am I. And he said, Draw not nigh hither; put off thy shoes from off thy feet, (* * * * *) for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground. Moreover, he said, I am the GOD of thy father; the GOD of Abraham, the GOD of Isaac, and the GOD of Jacob. And Moses hid his face, (* * *) for he was afraid to look upon GOD.

* * *

KING ZEDEKIAH.

Zedekiah was one-and-twenty years old when he began to reign, and reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD his GOD,

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and humbled not himself before Jeremiah, the prophet, speaking from the mouth of the LORD.

And he also rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar; but he stiffened his neck, and hardened his heart, from turning unto the LORD GOD of Israel. Moreover, all the chief of the priests, and the people, transgressed very much after all the abominations of the heathen; and polluted the house of the LORD, which he had hallowed in Jerusalem. And the LORD GOD of their fathers sent to them by his messengers, rising up betimes and sending; because he had compassion on his people, and on his dwelling place. But they mocked the messengers of GOD, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against his people, till there was no remedy.

Therefore he brought upon them the King of the Chaldees, who slew their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and had no compassion on young man or maiden, old man, or him that stooped for age; he gave them all into his hand. And all the vessels of the house of GOD, great and small, and the treasures of the house of the LORD and the treasures of the king and his princes; all these he brought to Babylon. And they burnt the house of GOD, and brake down the wall of Jerusalem, and burnt all the palaces thereof with fire, and destroyed all the goodly vessels thereof.

* * * * *

And them that had escaped from the sword carried he away to Babylon, where they were servants to him and his sons, until the reign of the kingdom of Persia.

* * *

PROCLAMATION.

Thus saith Cyrus, King of Persia: The LORD GOD of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and he hath charged me to build him an house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Who is there among you of all his people? His GOD be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which

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is in Judah, and build the house of the LORD GOD of Israel; which is in Jerusalem.

* * *

PRAYERS.

LORD, I cry unto thee: make haste unto me; give ear unto my voice. Let my prayers be set forth before thee as incense; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. Set a watch, O LORD, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips. Incline not my heart to any evil thing, to practice wicked works with men that work iniquity. Let the righteous smite me; it shall be a kindness: and let him reprove me; it shall be an excellent oil. Mine eyes are unto the, O GOD the LORD; in thee is my trust; leave not my soul destitute. Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and the gins of the workers of iniquity. Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst that I withal escape.

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I cried unto the LORD with my voice; with my voice unto the LORD did I make my supplication. I poured out my complaint before him; I showed before him my trouble. When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then thou knewest my path. In the way wherein I walked, have they privily laid a snare for me. I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me; refuge failed me; no man cared for my soul. I cried unto thee, O LORD; I said, Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living. Attend unto my cry, for I am brought very low; deliver me from my persecutors, for they are stronger than I. Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise thy name.

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Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my supplications; in thy faithfulness answer me, and in thy righteousness. And enter not into judgment with thy servant; for in thy sight shall no man living be justified. For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath made me to dwell in darkness.

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Therefore is my spirit overwhelmed within me; my heart within me is desolate. Hear me speedily, O LORD: my spirit faileth: hide not thy face from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit. Cause me to hear thy loving kindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk, for I lift up my soul unto thee. Bring my soul out of trouble, and of thy mercy cut off mine enemies: for I am thy servant.

* * *

LAMENTATION.

By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down; yea, we wept when we remembered Zion. We hanged our harps upon the willows in the midst thereof. For there they that carried us away captive, required of us a song; and they that wasted us, required of us mirth; saying Sing us one of the songs of Zion. How shall we sing the LORD's song in a strange land?

If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning. If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth; if I prefer not Jerusalem above my chief joy.

Remember, O LORD, the children of Edom in the day of Jerusalem; who said Raze it, raze it, even to the foundation thereof.

O daughter of Babylon, who art to be destroyed, happy shall he be, that rewardeth thee as thou hast served us. Happy shall he be, that taketh and dasheth thy little ones against the stones.

* * *

THE WRITINGS OF MOSES.

And Moses answered and said, But behold, they will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice: for they will say, The LORD hath not appeared unto thee. And the LORD said unto him, What is that in thine hand? And he said, A rod. And he said, Cast it on the ground: and he

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cast it on the ground and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from before it. And the LORD said unto Moses, Put forth thine hand and take it by the tail. And he put forth his hand and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand. That they may believe that the LORD GOD of their fathers, the GOD of Abraham, the GOD of Isaac, and the GOD of Jacob hath appeared unto thee.

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And the LORD said furthermore unto him, Put now thine hand into thy bosom; and he put his hand into his bosom, and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous as snow. And he said, Put thine hand into thy bosom again; and he put his hand into his bosom again; and he plucked it out of his bosom, and, behold, it was turned again as his other flesh. And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe thee, neither hearken to the voice of the first sign, that they will believe the voice of the latter sign.

* * * * *

And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe also these two signs, neither hearken unto thy voice, that thou shalt take of the water of the river, and pour it upon the dry land: and the water which thou takest out of the river, shall become blood upon the dry land.

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THE WORKING TOOLS.

The working tools of a Royal Arch Mason are the Crow, Pick-axe, and Spade.

The Crow is used by operative masons to raise things of great weight and bulk;

The Pick-axe to loosen the soil and prepare it for digging; and the Spade to remove rubbish.

But the Royal Arch Mason is emblematically taught to use them for more noble purposes.

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By them he is reminded that it is his sacred duty to lift from his mind the heavy weight of passions and prejudices which encumber his progress toward virtue, loosening the hold which long habits of sin and folly have had upon his disposition, and removing the rubbish of vice and ignorance, which prevents him from beholding that eternal foundation of truth and wisdom upon which he is to erect the spiritual and moral temple of his second life.

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THE BOOK OF THE LAW.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

* * * * * *

And it came to pass, when Moses had made an end of writing the words of this law in a book, until they were finished, that Moses commanded the Levites which bare the ark of the covenant of the Lord, saying, Take this book of the law, and put it in the side of the ark of the convenant of the Lord your God, that it may be there for a witness against thee.

And thou shalt put the mercy-seat above, upon the ark; and in the ark thou shalt put the testimony that I shall give thee.

* * * * *

And Moses said, This is the thing which the Lord commandeth: Fill an omer of the manna, to be kept for your generations; that they may see the bread wherewith I have fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you forth from the land of Egypt. And Moses said unto Aaron: Take a pot, and put an omer full of manna therein, and lay it up before the Lord, to be kept for your generations.

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As the LORD commanded Moses, so Aaron laid it up before the testimony to be kept.

* * * * *

And the LORD said unto Moses, Bring Aaron's rod again before the testimony, to be kept for a token.

* * * * *

And GOD spake unto Moses, and said unto him, I am the LORD; and I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of GOD Almighty; but by my name, JEHOVAH, was I not known to them.

* * *

CHARGE.

COMPANIONS—By the consent and assistance of the members of this Chapter, you are now exalted to the sublime degree of a Royal Arch Mason. The rites and mysteries developed in this degree have been handed down through a chosen few, unchanged by time, and uncontrolled by prejudice; and we trust that they will be regarded by you with the same veneration, and transmitted with the same scrupulous purity to your successors.

No one can reflect on the ceremonies of gaining admission into this place, without being forcibly struck with the important lessons which they teach. Here we are necessarily led to contemplate, with gratitude and admiration, the sacred source from whence all earthly comforts flow. Here we find additional inducements to continue steadfast and immovable in the discharge of our respective duties; and here we are bound by the most solemn ties, to promote each other's welfare, and correct each others failings, by advice, admonition and reproof. It is a duty which we owe to our companions of this order, that the application of every candate for admission should be examined with the most scrutinizing eye, so that we may always possess the satisfaction of finding none among us but such as will promote, to the

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utmost of their power, the great end of our institution. By paying due attention to this determination, you will never recommend any candidate for our mysteries, whose abilities and knowledge you cannot freely vouch for, and whom you do not firmly and confidently believe will fully conform to the principles of our order, and fulfill the obligations of a Royal Arch Mason. While such are our members, we may expect to be united in one object, without indifference, inattention or neglect; fervency and zeal, fidelity and affection, will be the distinguishing characteristics of our society; and that satisfaction, harmony and peace will be enjoyed at our meetings, which no other society can afford.

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CEREMONIALS
GRAND CHAPTER R. A. M.
MICHIGAN.

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CEREMONIAL

FOR

CONSTITUTING A CHAPTER

AND

INSTALLING ITS OFFICERS.

At the time appointed for the organization of a chapter under its warrant of constitution, the companions who are to compose its membership will assemble at its designated place of meeting, clothed as Royal Arch Masons, and, by authority of the Grand High Priest, proceed to open a chapter in due form.

The acting High Priest will thereupon appoint a committee to wait upon the Grand Officers and inform them that the companions are in order for their reception, and to conduct them into the chapter room.

In the meantime the Grand Officers will have assembled in an adjoining room to perfect the arrangements for the ceremonies, and on being notified by the committee that the companions are in readiness to receive them, they will repair to the chapter room in form, as follows:

Grand Captain of the Host.

Grand Sentinel.
Grand Master First Veil. Grand Master Second Veil.
Grand Master Third Veil.
Grand Royal Arch Captain. Grand Principal Sojourner.
Grand Orator.
Grand Secretary. Grand Treasurer.
Grand Chaplain.
Grand Scribe. Grand King.
Deputy Grand High Priest.
Grand High Priest.

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The procession will move once about the chapter room by the E.·. and S.·. to the station in the W.·.; thence to the altar, where, dividing and passing to the left and right, the Grand Officers will be formed in line across the room, faced towards the E.·., the Grand High Priest in the center. The Grand High Priest, addressing the acting High Priest, will then announce the purpose of his visit, and, under the direction of the latter, will be received with the Grand Honors of Royal Arch Masonry.

The Grand High Priest will then repair to his station in the E.·. of the S.·., and direct the chapter offices to varcate and the Grand Officers to take their respective official stations.

If the ceremonies are to be public, a procession will then be formed by the Grand Captain of the Host, as follows, which will proceed to the church or place designated for their performance.

Grand Captain of the Host.

Sentinel.
Royal Arch Masons, by threes—thus * * *
Officers of the proposed new chapter as follows:
Master First Veil. Master Second Veil.
Master Third Veil.
Royal Arch Captain. Principal Sojourner.
Captain of the Host.
Secretary. Treasurer.
Chaplain carrying the Pot of Incense.
Four Companions carrying the Ark.
A Companion carrying the Great Lights.
Scribe. King.
High Priest.

Grand Sentinel.
Members of the Grand Chapter by threes.
The Grand Officers arranged
as before described.

If Knights Templars and Master Masons are invited to participate in the public celebration, they will be formed on the right as an escort to the column of Royal Arch Masons.

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On arriving at the church or place where the services are to be performed, the procession will halt, open to the right and left, and face inward, and the Grand Officers and others in succession will pass through the lines and enter the house, the Grand High Priest being the first to enter.

The Order of Exercises will be as follows:

ANTHEM.

PRAYER BY THE GRAND CHAPLAIN.

Almighty and Supreme High Priest of Heaven and Earth? Who is there in heaven but thee! And who upon earth can stand in competition with thee! Thine OMNISCIENT MIND brings all things in review, past, present, and to come; thine OMNIPOTENT ARM directs the movements of the vast creation; thine OMNIPRESENT EYE penetrates the secret recesses of every heart; thy boundless beneficence supplies us with every comfort and enjoyment, and thine unspeakable perfections and glory surpass the understanding of the children of men! Our Father, who art in heaven, we invoke thy benediction upon the purposes of our present assembly. May this chapter be established to thine honor and consecrated to thy glory; may its officers be endowed with wisdom to discern its true interests and fidelity to pursue them; and may its members be ever mindful of the duty they owe to their God, the obedience they owe to their superiors, the love they owe to their equals, and the good-will they owe to all mankind.

Glory be to God on high.

Response: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. So mote it be.

ORATION.

MUSIC OR AN ODE.

The Grand Captain of the Host will then form the new chapter at the altar on the side towards the W.·., facing the Grand High Priest, the officers in front.

The Deputy Grand High Priest will then say:

MOST EXCELLENT GRAND HIGH PRIEST: A number

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of companions, duly instructed in the sublime mysteries, being desirous of promoting the honor and propagating the principles of the Art, have applied to the Grand Chapter for a Warrant to constitute a new chapter of Royal Arch Masons in this place; which having been obtained, they are here assembled for the purpose of being constituted and having their officers installed in due and ancient form.

The Grand High Priest will then direct the Grand Secretary to read the Warrant, which, having been done, he will ask the members of the proposed new chapter if they still approve of the officers named therein; this being signified accordingly, the Grand High Priest will rise and say: (All standing)

By virtue of the high powers in me vested, I do form you, my respected companions, into a regular chapter of Royal Arch Masons. Henceforth you are authorized and empowered to open and hold lodges of Mark Masters, Past Masters and Most Excellent Masters, and a chapter of Royal Arch Masons; and to do and perform all such things as thereunto may appertain; conforming in all your doings to the constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America, and the constitution and general regulations of the Grand Chapter of this state. And may the God of your fathers be with you, and guide and direct you in all doings.

The Ark of the Covenant, and the furniture, clothing and jewels belonging to the chapter having been previously placed on a table in the center, in front of the Grand High Priest, and covered with a white cloth, will then be uncovered by the Deputy Grand High Priest, accompanied with solemn music, and the dedication will proceed as follows:

The Grand Chaplain with the pot of Incense in his hands will say:

To our Most Excellent Patron, ZERUBBABEL, we solemnly dedicate this chapter. May the blessing of our Heavenly High Priest descend and rest upon its members, and may their felicity be everlasting.

Lights incense and places the vessel containing same on the pedestal in front of the Grand High Priest.

Glory be to God on High.

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Response: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. So mote it be.

MUSIC OR AN ODE.

The Deputy Grand High Priest will then present the High Priest of the new chapter to the Grand High Priest, saying:

MOST EXCELLENT GRAND HIGH PRIEST: I present Companion....., nominated in the warrant, to be installed High Priest of this new chapter. I find him to be skillful in the Royal Art and attentive to the moral precepts of our forefathers, and have therefore no doubt that he will discharge the duties of his office with fidelity.

The Grand High Priest will then address him as follows:

COMPANION: I feel much satisfaction in performing my duty on the present occasion, by installing you into the office of High Priest of this chapter. It is an office highly honorable to all those who diligently perform the important duties which belong to it. Your reputed masonic knowledge, however, precludes the necessity of a particular enumeration of those duties. I shall therefore only observe, that by a frequent recurrence to the constitution and the general regulations, and the constant study of our sublime science, you will be best able to fulfill them; and I am confident that the companions who are chosen to assist you in council will give strength to your endeavors and support to your exertions. I shall now propose certain questions to you, relative to the duties of your office, to which I must request your unequivocal answer.

1. Do you solemnly promise that you will redouble your endeavors to correct the vices, purify the morals, and promote the happiness of those of your companions who have attained the sublime degree of Royal Arch Mason?

2. That you will never suffer your chapter to be opened, unless there be present nine regular Royal Arch Masons?

3. That you will never suffer either more or less than

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three brethren to be exalted in your chapter at one and the same time?

4. That you will not exalt anyone to this degree who has not shown a charitable and humane disposition and made a considerable proficiency in the preparatory degrees?

5. That you will promote the general good of our Order, and, on all proper occasions, be ready to give and receive instructions, particularly from the General and State Grand Officers?

6. That, to the utmost of your power, you will preserve the solemnities of our ceremonies, and behave, in open Chapter, with the most profound respect and reverence, as an example to your companions?

7. That you will not acknowledge or have intercourse with any chapter that does not work under a constitutional warrant or dispensation?

8. That you will not admit any visitor into your chapter who has not been exalted in a chapter legally constituted, without his having been formally healed?

9. That you will observe and support such by laws as may be made by your chapter, in conformity to the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America, and the constitution and General Regulations of the Grand Chapter of this State?

10. That you will pay respect and due obedience to the instructions of the General and State Grand officers, particularly relating to the several Lectures and Charges, and will resign the chair to them, severally, when they may visit your chapter?

11. That you will support and observe the constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America, and the constitution and General Regulations of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, under whose authority you act?

12. That you will bind your succesor in office to the observance of these rules to which you now assent?

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Do you submit to all these things, and do you promise to observe and practice them faithfully?

Answer: I do.

All standing, and the appointed High Priest kneeling at the altar, the Grand Chaplain will offer the following

PRAYER.

Most holy and glorious Lord God, High Priest of Heaven and Earth! We approach thee with reverence, and implore thy blessing on the companion appointed to preside over this new assembly, and now prostrate before thee;—fill his heart with thy fear, that his tongue and actions may pronounce thy glory. Make him steadfast in thy service; grant him firmness of mind; animate his heart, and strengthen his endeavors; may he teach thy judgments, and thy laws; and may the incense he shall put before thee, upon thine altar, prove an acceptable sacrifice unto thee. Bless him, O Lord, and bless the work of his hands. Accept us in mercy; hear thou from heaven thy dwelling-place and forgive our transgressions.

Glory be to God on high.

Response: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. So mote it be.

The Grand High Priest will then administer the following obligation:

I.....do promise and swear that I will serve this chapter as its High Priest, for the term of which I have been appointed; that I will perform all the duties appertaining to that office to the best of my abilities, and will support and maintain the constitution and general regulations of the Grand Chapter of the state of..... and those of the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America.

The Grand High Priest will then cause the High Priest to be invested with the clothing and badge of his office, and address him as follows:

EXCELLENT COMPANION: In consequence of your cheerful acquiescence in the charges which you have heard

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recited, you are qualified for installation as the High Priest of this Royal Arch Chapter; and it is incumbent upon me; on this occasion, to point out some of the particulars appertaining to your office, its duties and dignity.

The High Priest of every chapter has it in special charge to see that the by-laws of his chapter, as well as the constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America, and the constitution and general regulations of the Grand Chapter are duly observed;—that all the officers of his chapter perform the duties of their respective offices faithfully, and are examples of diligence and industry to their companions;—that true and accurate records of all the proceedings of the chapter are kept by the Secretary;—that the Treasurer keeps and renders exact and just accounts of all the moneys and other property belonging to the chapter;—that correct returns be made annually to the Grand Chapter;—and that the annual dues to the Grand Chapter be regularly and punctually paid. He has the right and authority of calling the members of his chapter together at pleasure, upon any emergency or occurrence which in his judgment may require their meeting. It is his privilege and duty, with the King and Scribe, to attend the meetings of the Grand Chapter, either in person or by proxy; and the well-being of the institution requires that this duty should on no occasion be omitted.

Let the *Mitre* with which you are crowned remind you of the dignity of the office you sustain, and its inscription impress upon your mind a sense of your dependence upon God;—that perfection is not given unto man upon earth, and that holiness belongeth unto the Lord alone.

The *Breast-Plate*, with which you are decorated, an imitation of that upon which were engraven the names of the twelve tribes, and worn by the High Priest of Israel, is to teach you that you are always to bear in mind your responsibility to the laws and ordinances of the institution, and that the honor and interests of your chapter, and its members, should be always near your heart.

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The various colors of the robes you wear are emblematical of every grace and virtue which can adorn and beautify the human mind; each of which will be briefly illustrated in the course of the charges to be delivered to your subordinate officers.

MUSIC OR AN ODE.

EXCELLENT COMPANION: You will now take charge of your officers, standing upon their right, and present them severally in succession to the Deputy Grand High Priest, by whom they will be presented to me for installation.

The officers will previously be seated on the north side of the room near the dais, in the order of their rank.

The High Priest of the chapter will then present each of the officers in succession to the Deputy Grand High Priest, and he to the Grand High Priest, with the words already used in presenting the High Priest, making the necessary variation in the title of the office.

The officers will then be obligated severally or together, as may be preferred, as follows:

I.....do promise and swear that I will serve this chapter as King (Scribe, etc.) for the term for which I have been appointed; and will perform all the duties appertaining to that office to the best of my abilities, and will support and maintain the constitution and General Regulations of the Grand Chapter of the State of Michigan and those of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America.

CHARGE TO THE KING.

COMPANION: The important station in this chapter to which you have been chosen requires from you exemplary conduct; while its duties demand your most assiduous attention. You are to second and support your chief in all the requirements of his office, and should casualties at any time prevent his attendence, you are to succeed him in the performance of his duties.

Your badge, *the Level surmounted by a Crown*, should remind you that although you are the representative of a

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King, and exalted by office above your companions, yet that you remain upon a level with them, as respects your duty to God, to your neighbor, and to yourself; that you are equally bound with them to be obedient to the laws and ordinances of the institution; to be charitable, humane and just, and to seek every occasion of doing good.

Your office affords a striking lesson of humility. The institutions of political society teach us to consider the King as the chief of created beings, and that the first duty of his subjects is to obey his mandates;—but the Royal Arch degree, by placing the King in a situation subordinate to that of the High Priest, teaches us that our duty to God is paramount to all other duties, and should ever claim the priority of our obedience; and that however strongly we may be bound to obey the laws of civil society, yet that those laws, to be just, should never intermeddle with matters of conscience, nor dictate articles of faith.

The *Scarlet Robe*, an emblem of imperial dignity, should remind you of the paternal concern you should ever feel for the welfare of your chapter, and the *Fervency* and *Zeal* with which you should endeavor to promote its prosperity.

In presenting to you the Crown, which is an emblem of royalty, I would remind you that to reign sovereign in the hearts and effections of men must be far more grateful to a generous and benevolent mind than to rule over their lives and fortunes; and that to enable you to enjoy this pre-eminence with honor and satisfaction, you must subject your own passions and prejudices to the dominion of reason and charity.

You are entitled to the second seat in the council of your companions. Let the bright example of your illustrious predecessor in the Grand Council at Jerusalem stimulate you to the faithful discharge of your duties; and when the King of Kings shall summon you into his immediate presence, from his hand may you receive a *Crown of glory* which shall never fade away.

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MUSIC OR AN ODE.

CHARGE TO THE SCRIBE.

COMPANION: The office of Scribe, to which you have been chosen, is very important and respectable. In the absence of your superior officers you are bound to succeed them and to perform their duties. The purposes of the institution ought never to suffer for want of intelligence in its proper officers; you will therefore perceive the necessity there is of your possessing such qualifications as will enable you to accomplish those duties which are incumbent upon you, in your appropriate station, as well as those which may occasionally devolve upon you by the absence of your superiors.

The *Purple Robe*, with which you are invested, is an emblem of *Union*, and will remind you that the harmony and unanimity of the chapter should be our constant aim; and to this end you are studiously to avoid all occasions of giving offense, or countenancing anything that may create divisions or dissensions. You are to endeavor, by all means in your power, to establish a permanent union and good understanding among all degrees and orders of Masonry; and as the glorious sun, at its meridian height, dispels the mist and clouds which obscure the horizon, so may your exertions tend to dissipate the gloom of jealousy and discord, whenever they may appear.

Your badge, *a Plumb-Rule surmounted by the Turban*, is an emblem of rectitude and vigilance; and while you stand as a watchman on the tower, to guard your companions against the approach of those enemies of human felicity, *intemperance and excess*, let this faithful monitor ever remind you to walk uprightly in your station, admonishing and animating your companions to fidelity and industry while at labor, and to temperance and moderation while at refreshment. And when the Great Watchman of Israel, whose eye is never closed, shall relieve you from your post on earth, may he permit you in heaven to participate in that food and refreshment which is

"Such as the saints in glory love,
And such as angels eat."

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CHARGE TO THE TREASURER.

COMPANION: You have been selected as the Treasurer of this chapter, and I have the pleasure of investing you with the badge of your office. The qualities which should recommend a Treasurer are *accuracy* and *fidelity;* accuracy in keeping a fair and minute account of all receipts and disbursements, and fidelity in carefully preserving all the property and funds of the chapter that may be placed in his hands, and rendering a just account of the same whenever he is called upon for that purpose. I presume that your respect for the institution, your attachment to the interests of your chapter, and your regard for a good name, which is better than precious ointment, will prompt you to the faithful discharge of the duties of your office.

CHARGE TO THE SECRETARY.

COMPANION: It is with pleasure that I invest you with your badge as Secretary of this chapter. The qualities which should recommend a Secretary are *promptitude* in issuing such notifications as may be required, and also the orders of his superior; *punctuality* in attending the convocations of his chapter; *correctness* in recording its proceedings; *judgment* in discriminating between what is proper and what is improper to be committed to writing; *regularity* in making his annual returns to the Grand Chapter; *integrity* in accounting for all moneys that may come into his hands; and *fidelity* in paying the same to the Treasurer. The possession of these good quatities, I presume, has designated you as a suitable candidate for this important office; and I cannot entertain a doubt that you will discharge its duties beneficially to the chapter and honorably to yourself. And when you shall have completed the record of your transactions here below, and finished the term of your probation, may you be admitted into the celestial Grand Chapter of saints and angels, and find your name *recorded in the Book of Life Eternal.*

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CHARGE TO THE CHAPLAIN.

COMPANION: The sacred position of Chaplain has been entrusted to your care, and I now invest you with the jewel of your office.

In the discharge of your duties you will be required to conduct the devotional exercises of the convocations of your companions, and to perform the sacred functions of your holy calling at their meetings. Though Masonry be not Religion, it is emphatically Religion's handmaid; and I am sure that, in ministering at its altar, the services you may perform will lose nothing of their vital importance because they are practiced in that spirit of universal tolerance which distinguishes our institution. The doctrines of morality and virtue which you are accustomed to inculcate to the world, as a minister of God, will form the appropriate lessons which you are expected to communicate to your companions. The profession which you have chosen as your lot in life is the best guaranty that you will discharge the duties of your present appointment with steadfastness and perseverance in well-doing.

CHARGE TO THE CAPTAIN OF THE HOST.

COMPANION: The office with which you are entrusted is of high importance, and demands your most zealous consideration, The preservation of the most essential traits of our ancient customs, usages and landmarks is within your province; and it is indispensably necessary that the part assigned to you, in the immediate practice of our rites and ceremonies, should be perfectly understood, and correctly administered.

Your office corresponds with that of Marshal or Master of Ceremonies. You are to superintend all processions of your chapter, when moving as a distinct body, either in public or private; and as the world can only judge of our private discipline by our public deportment, you will be careful that the utmost order and decorum be observed on

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all such occasions. You will ever be attentive to the commands of your chief, and always near at hand to see them duly executed. I invest you with the badge of your office, and arm you with a sword, and I presume that you will give to your duties all that study and attention which their importance demands.

CHARGE TO THE PRINCIPAL SOJOURNER.

COMPANION: The office confided to you, though subordinate in degree, is equal in importance to any in the chapter, that of your chief alone excepted. Your office corresponds with that of *Senior Deacon*, in the preparatory degrees. Among the duties required of you, the preparation and introduction of candidates are not the least. As in our intercourse with the world, experience teaches that our first impressions are often the most durable, and the most difficult to eradicate; so it is of great importance, in all cases, that such impressions should be correct and just. Hence it is essential that the officer who brings the blind by a way that they knew not, and leads them in paths that they have not known, should always be well qualified to make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight.

Your *robe of office* is an emblem of humility; and teaches that in the prosecution of a laudable undertaking we should never decline taking any part that may be assigned us, although it may be the most difficult or dangerous.

The rose-colored tesselated border, adorning the robe, is an emblem of ardor and perseverance, and signifies that when we have engaged in a virtuous course, notwithstanding all the impediments, hardships and trial we may be destined to encounter, we should endure them all with fortitude, and ardently persevere unto the end; resting assured of receiving, at the termination of our labors, a noble and glorious reward. Your past exertions will be considered as a pledge of your future assiduity in the faithful discharge of your duties.

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CHARGE TO THE ROYAL ARCH CAPTAIN.

COMPANION: The well-known duties of your station require but little elucidation. Your office in the preparatory degrees corresponds with that of *Junior Deacon*. It is your province, conjointly with the Captain of the Host, to attend the examination of all visitors, and to take care that those only are permitted to enter the chapter who have *traveled the rugged path* of trial, and evinced their title to our favor and friendship. You will be attentive to obey the commands of the Captain of the Host during *the introduction of strangers among the workmen;* so that should they be permitted to pass your post, they may be introduced into the presence of the Grand Council.

The *White Banner*, entrusted to your care, is emblematical of that *Purity* of heart and rectitude of conduct which ought to actuate all those who pass the white veil of the sanctuary. I give it to you strictly in charge, never to suffer any one to pass your post without the *Signet of Truth*.

I present you the badge of your office, and deliver this sword into your hands, in expectation of your performing your duties with intelligence, assiduity and propriety.

CHARGE TO THE MASTER OF THE THIRD VAIL.

COMPANION: I present you with the *Scarlet Banner*, which is the ensign of your office, and with a sword to protect and defend the same. The rich and beautiful color of your banner is emblematical of *Fervency* and *Zeal;* it is the appropriate color of the Royal Arch degree; it admonishes us that we should be fervent in the exercise of our devotions to God, and zealous in our endeavors to promote the happiness of man.

CHARGE TO THE MASTER OF THE SECOND VEIL.

COMPANION: I present you with the *Purple Banner*, which is the ensign of your office, and arm you with a sword, to enable you to maintain its honor.

The color of your banner is produced by a due admix-

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ture of *blue* and *scarlet;* the former of which is the characteristic color of the *symbolic* or *first three degrees of Masonry*, and the latter, that of the *Royal Arch degree*. It is an emblem of *Union*, and is the characteristic color of the intermediate degrees. It admonishes us to cultivate and improve that spirit of union and harmony, between the brethren of the symbolic degrees and the companions of the sublime degree, which should ever distinguish the members of a society founded upon the principles of everlasting truth and universal philanthropy.

CHARGE TO THE MASTER OF THE FIRST VEIL.

COMPANION: I present you with the *Blue Banner*, which is the ensign of your office, and arm you with a sword for its defense and protection. The color of your banner is one of the most durable and beautiful in nature. It is the appropriate color adopted and worn by our ancient brethren of the three symbolic degrees, and is the peculiar characteristic of an institution which has stood the test of ages, and which is as much distinguished by the durability of its materials or principles as by the beauty of its superstructure. It is an emblem of universal *Friendship* and *Benevolence*, and instructs us that, in the mind of a Mason, these virtues should be as expansive as the Blue Arch of Heaven itself.

CHARGE TO THE MASTERS OF THE FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD VEILS, AS OVERSEERS.

[Forming a triangle at the Altar on the side towards the W.·. and upholding their banners.]

COMPANIONS: Those who are placed as overseers of any work should be well qualified to judge of its beauties and deformities—its excellencies and defects; they should be capable of estimating the former and amending the latter. This consideration should induce you to cultivate and improve all those qualifications, which you already possess, as well as to persevere in your endeavors to acquire those in which you are deficient. Let the various *colors* of the *ban-*

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ners committed to your charge admonish you to the exercise of the several virtues of which they are emblematic. You are to enjoin the practice of those virtues upon all who shall present themselves or the *work* of their hands for your inspection. Let no work receive your approbation but such as is calculated to adorn and strengthen the masonic edifice. Be industrious and faithful in practicing and disseminating a knowledge of that *true and perfect work*, which alone can stand the test of the *Grand Overseer's Square*, in the great day of trial and tribulation. Then, although every *rod* should become a *serpent*, and every serpent an enemy to this institution, yet shall their utmost exertions to destroy its reputation, or sap its foundations, become as impotent as the *leprous hand*, or as *water spilled upon the ground*, which cannot be gathered up again.

CHARGE TO THE SENTINEL.

COMPANION: You are appointed Sentinel of this chapter; and I invest you with the badge, and entrust you with this implement of your office. As the sword is placed in the hands of the Sentinel, to enable him effectually to guard against the approach of all *cowans and eavesdroppers*, and suffer none to pass or repass but such as are *duly qualified*, so it should morally serve as a constant admonition to us to set a guard at the entrance of our thoughts; to place a watch at the door of our lips; to post a sentinel at the avenue of our actions; thereby excluding every unqualified and unworthy thought, word and deed; and preserving consciences void of offense toward God and toward man.

As the first application from visitors for admission into the chapter is generally made to the Sentinel at the door, your station will often present you to the observation of strangers; it is, therefore, essentially necessary that he who sustains the office with which you are entrusted should be a man of good morals, steady habits, strict discipline, temperate, affable and discreet. I trust that a just regard for the honor and reputation of the institution will ever induce you to perform with fidelity the trust reposed in you; and when

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the door of this earthly tabernacle shall be closed, may you find an abundant entrance through the gates into the temple and city of our God.

MUSIC OR AN ODE.

ADDRESS TO THE HIGH PRIEST.

EXCELLENT: The station which you are called to fill is important, not only as it respects the correct practice of our rites and ceremonies, and the internal economy of a chapter, but the public reputation of the institution will be generally found to rise or fall, according to the skill, fidelity and discretion with which its concerns are managed, and in proportion as the character and conduct of its principal officers deserve approbation or censure.

You have accepted a trust to which is attached a weight of responsibility which will require all your efforts to discharge honorably to yourself and satisfactorily to the chapter. You are to see that your officers are capable and faithful in the discharge of their duties. Should they lack ability, you are expected to supply their deficiencies. You are to watch carefully the progress of their performances, and to see that the long-established customs of the institution suffer no derangement at their hands. You are to have a careful eye over the general conduct of the chapter; see that due order and subordination are observed on all occasions; that the members are properly instructed; that due solemnity be observed in the practice of our rites; and that no improper levity be permitted at any time, but more especially *at the introduction of strangers among the workmen.*

In fine, you are to be an example to your officers and members, which they need not hesitate to follow; thus securing to yourself the favor of Heaven and the applause of your brethren and companions.

ADDRESS TO THE OFFICERS.

COMPANIONS IN OFFICE: Precept and example should ever advance with equal pace. Those moral duties which

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you are required to teach unto others you should never neglect to practice yourselves. Do you desire that the demeanor of your equals and inferiors towards you should be marked with deference and respect? Be sure that you omit no opportunity of furnishing them with examples in your own conduct towards your superiors. Do you desire to obtain instruction from those who are more wise or better informed than yourselves? Be sure you are always ready to impart of your knowledge to those within your sphere who stand in need of and are entitled to receive it. Do you desire distinction among your companions? Be sure that your claims to preferment are founded upon superior attainments; let no ambitious passion be suffered to induce you to envy or supplant a companion who may be considered better qualified for promotion than yourselves; but rather let a laudable emulation induce you to strive to excel each other in improvement and discipline; ever remembering that he who faithfully performs his duty, even in a subordinate or private station, is as justly entitled to esteem and respect as he who is invested with supreme authority.

ADDRESS TO THE CHAPTER.

COMPANIONS: The exercise and management of the degrees of Masonry in your chapter while at work under its Warrant of Dispensation are so highly appreciated, and the good reputation of the chapter so well established, that I must presume these considerations alone, were there no others of greater magnitude, would be sufficient to induce you to preserve and perpetuate this valuable and honorable character. But when to these is added the pleasure which every philanthropic heart must feel in doing good, in promoting order, in diffusing light and knowledge, and in cultivating masonic charity, which are the great objects of this sublime institution, I cannot doubt that your future conduct, and that of your successors, will be such as to increase still more the lustre of your justly esteemed reputation.

May your *Chapter* become *beautiful* as the *temple*, *peaceful* as the *ark*, and *sacred* as its *most holy place*. May your

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oblations of *piety* and *praise* be *grateful* as the *incense*, your love *warm* as its *flame*, and your charity diffusive as its fragrance. May your hearts be *pure* as the *altar*, and your conduct *acceptable* as the *offering*. May the exercises of your *chraity* be as constant as the returning wants of the distressed *widow* and helpless *orphan*. May the approbation of Heaven be your encouragement, and the testimony of a good conscience your support; may you be endowed with every good and perfect gift, while *traveling* the *rugged path* of life and finally be *admitted within the veil* of Heaven, to the full enjoyment of life eternal.

The officers and members of the chapter will then pass in review in front of the Grand High Priest, with their hands crossed on their breasts, bowing as they pass.

The Grand Captain of the Host will then make the following proclamation:

In the name of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of the State of Michigan, I proclaim.....Chapter, No. ....., to be legally constituted and consecrated, and the officers thereof duly installed, with the Grand Honors of Royal Arch Masonry.

If the ceremonies are public, the public Grand Honors will be given.

MUSIC OR AN ODE.

BENEDICTION BY THE GRAND CHAPLAIN.

The procession, in case the ceremonies have been conducted in a church or public place, will then return in the same order as before, to the chapter room, and the Grand Officers retiring, the chapter will be closed by its officers.

NOTE—Music and Ode may be omitted at pleasure of installing officer.

NOTE—Where installation is public the Grand Honors as practiced by Grand Lodge on such occasion will be the Grand Honors given.

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CEREMONIAL

FOR THE

ANNUAL INSTALLATION

OF THE

OFFICERS OF A CHAPTER.

It is in the province of the High Priest to install the companion lawfully elected to succeed him in office, or he may invite a duly qualified companion to perform the service. The Installing Officer (who must be a High Priest or Past High Priest) representing the Grand High Priest of the jurisdiction during the ceremony of installation, is entitled by courtesy to recognition as such for the time being.

The interest of the ceremonial of installation may be enhanced (should circumstances permit) by the employment of the forms laid down in the ceremonial for the constituting of chapters, relating to the procession of Grand Officers, and their movement about the chapter room.

At the time appointed for the installation of the officers of a chapter, a Past High Priest, if one be present, and if not, some other officer, who will act as Grand Captain of the Host for the occasion, will present the High Priest-elect to the Installing Officer, and say:

MOST EXCELLENT; I present Companion..... who has been duly elected to serve this chapter as High Priest for the ensuing masonic year, and who now declares himself ready for installation.

The High Priest-elect then turning and facing the companions, the Installing Officer will say:

COMPANIONS: You behold before you Companion.... ....., who has been elected to serve this chapter as Excellent High Priest, and who now declares himself ready for installation. If any of you have any reasons to urge why he should not be installed, you will make them known now

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or else forever hereafter hold your peace. Hearing no objections, I shall proceed to install him.

The High Priest-elect again facing the E.·. the Installing Officer will address him as follows:

COMPANION: I feel much satisfaction in performing my duty on the present occasion, by installing you into the office of High Priest of this chapter. It is an office highly honorable to all those who diligently perform the important duties which belong to it. Your reputed masonic knowledge, however, precludes the necessity of a particular enumeration of those duties. I shall therefore only observe, that by a frequent recurrence to the constitution and the general regulations, and constant practice of the several sublime lectures and charges, you will best be able to fulfill them; and I am confident that the companions who are chosen to assist you in council will give strength to your endeavors and support to your exertions. I shall now propose certain questions to you, relative to the duties of your office, to which I must request your unequivocal answer.

1. Do you solemnly promise that you will redouble your endeavors to correct the vices, purify the morals, and promote the happiness of those of your companions who have attained the sublime degree of Royal Arch Mason?

2. That you will never suffer your chapter to be opened, unless there be present nine regular Royal Arch Masons?

3. That you will never suffer either more or less than three brethren to be exalted in your chapter at one and the same time?

4. That you will not exalt anyone to this degree who has not shown a charitable and humane disposition and made a considerable proficiency in the preparatory degrees?

5. That you will promote the general good of our Order, and, on all proper occasions, be ready to give and receive instructions, particularly from the General and State Grand Officers?

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6. That, to the utmost of your power, you will preserve the solemnities of our ceremonies, and behave, in open chapter, with the most profound respect and reverence, as an example to your companions?

7. That you will not acknowledge or have intercourse with any chapter that does not work under a constitutional warrant or dispensation?

8. That you will not admit any visitor into your chapter who has not been exalted in a chapter legally constituted, without his having been formally healed?

9. That you will observe and support such by laws as may be made by your chapter, in conformity to the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America, and the constitution and General Regulations of the Grand Chapter of this State?

10. That you will pay respect and due obedience to the instructions of the General and State Grand officers, particularly relating to the several Lectures and Charges, and will resign the chair to them, severally, when they may visit your chapter?

11. That you will support and observe the constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America, and the Constitution and General Regulations of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, under whose authority you act?

12. That you will bind your succesor in office to the observance of these rules to which you now assent?

Do you submit to all these things, and do you promise to observe and practice them faithfully?

Answer: I do.

All standing, and the High Priest-elect kneeling at the altar, the Grand Chaplain will offer the following

PRAYER.

Most holy and glorious Lord God, High Priest of Heaven and Earth! We approach thee with reverence,

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and implore thy blessing on the companion selected to preside over this chapter, and now prostrate before thee;—fill his heart with thy fear, that his tongue and actions may pronounce thy glory. Make him steadfast in thy service; grant him firmness of mind; animate his heart, and strengthen his endeavors; may he teach thy judgments, and thy laws; and may the incense he shall put before thee, upon thine altar, prove an acceptable sacrifice unto thee. Bless him, O Lord, and bless the work of his hands. Accept us in mercy; hear thou from heaven thy dwelling-place and forgive our transgressions.

Glory be to God on high.

Response: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. So mote it be.

The Installing Officer will then administer the following obligation to the High Priest-elect:

I.....do promise and swear that I will serve this chapter as High Priest, for the term for which I have been elected; that I will perform all the duties appertaining to that office to the best of my abilities, and will support and maintain the constitution and general regulations of the Grand Chapter of the State of Michigan and those of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America.

The Installing Officer will then cause the High Priest to be invested with the clothing and badge of his office, and address him as follows:

EXCELLENT COMPANION: In consequence of your cheerful acquiescence in the charges which you have heard recited, you are qualified for installation as the High Priest of this Royal Arch Chapter; and it is incumbent upon me; on this occasion, to point out some of the particulars appertaining to your office, its duties and dignity.

The High Priest of every chapter has it in special charge to see that the by-laws of his chapter, as well as the constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America, and the constitu-

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tion and general regulations of the Grand Chapter are duly observed;—that all the officers of his chapter perform the duties of their respective offices faithfully, and are examples of diligence and industry to their companions;—that true and accurate records of all the proceedings of the chapter are kept by the Secretary;—that the Treasurer keeps and renders exact and just accounts of all the moneys and other property belonging to the chapter;—that correct returns be made annually to the Grand Chapter;—and that the annual dues to the Grand Chapter be regularly and punctually paid. He has the right and authority of calling the members of his chapter together at pleasure, upon any emergency or occurrence which in his judgment may require their meeting. It is his privilege and duty, with the King and Scribe, to attend the meetings of the Grand Chapter, either in person or by proxy; and the well-being of the institution requires that this duty should on no occasion be omitted.

Let the *Mitre* with which you are crowned remind you of the dignity of the office you sustain, and its inscription impress upon your mind a sense of your dependence upon God;—that perfection is not given unto man upon earth, and that holiness belongeth unto the Lord alone.

The *Breast-Plate*, with which you are decorated, an imitation of that upon which were engraven the names of the twelve tribes, and worn by the High Priest of Israel, is to teach you that you are always to bear in mind your responsibility to the laws and ordinances of the institution, and that the honor and interests of your chapter, and its members, should be always near your heart.

The various colors of the robes you wear are emblematical of every grace and virtue which can adorn and beautify the human mind; each of which will be briefly illustrated in the course of the charges to be delivered to your subordinate officers.

MUSIC OR AN ODE.

The High Priest is then inducted into the Oriental Chair. The subordinate officers are severally presented to the Installing Officer by the act-

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ing Grand Captain of the Host, with the same address as is recited above, and the same call is made in each case for objections. They are then obligated, either severally or together, as may be preferred and the appropriate charge being read by the Installing Officer, the newly installed officer assumes his appropriate station in the chapter.

CHARGE TO THE KING.

COMPANION: The important station in this chapter to which you are elected requires from you exemplary conduct; while its duties demand your most assiduous attention. You are to second and support your chief in all the requirements of his office, and should casualties at any time prevent his attendence, you are to succeed him in the performance of his duties.

Your badge, *the Level surmounted by a Crown*, should remind you that although you are the representative of a King, and exalted by office above your companions, yet that you remain upon a level with them, as respects your duty to God, to your neighbor, and to yourself; that you are equally bound with them to be obedient to the laws and ordinances of the institution; to be charitable, humane and just, and to seek every occasion of doing good.

Your office teaches a striking lesson of humility. The institutions of political society teach us to consider the King as the chief of created beings, and that the first duty of his subjects is to obey his mandates;—but the Royal Arch degree, by placing the King in a situation subordinate to the High Priest, teaches us that our duty to God is paramount to all other duties, and should ever claim the priority of our obedience; and that however strongly we may be bound to obey the laws of civil society, yet that those laws, to be just, should never intermeddle with matters of conscience, nor dictate articles of faith.

The *Scarlet Robe*, an emblem of imperial dignity, should remind you of the paternal concern you should ever feel for the welfare of your chapter, and the *Fervency* and *Zeal* with which you should endeavor to promote its prosperity.

In presenting to you the Crown, which is an emblem of

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royalty, I would remind you that to reign sovereign in the hearts and effections of men must be far more grateful to a generous and benevolent mind than to rule over their lives and fortunes; and that to enable you to enjoy this pre-eminence with honor and satisfaction, you must subject your own passions and prejudices to the dominion of reason and charity.

You are entitled to the second seat in the council of your companions. Let the bright example of your illustrious predecessor in the Grand Council at Jerusalem stimulate you to the faithful discharge of your duties; and when the King of Kings shall summon you into his immediate presence, from his hand may you receive a *Crown of glory* which shall never fade away.

MUSIC OR AN ODE.

CHARGE TO THE SCRIBE.

COMPANION: The office of Scribe, to which you are elected, is very important and respectable. In the absence of your superior officers you are bound to succeed them, and to perform their duties. The purposes of the institution ought never to suffer for want of intelligence in its proper officers; you will therefore perceive the necessity there is of your possessing such qualifications as will enable you to accomplish those duties which are incumbent upon you, in your appropriate station, as well as those which may occasionally devolve on you, by the absence of your superiors.

The *Purple Robe*, with which you are invested, is an emblem of *Union*, and will remind you that the harmony and unanimity of the chapter should be your constant aim; and to this end you are studiously to avoid all occasions of giving offense, or countenancing anything that may create divisions or dissensions. You are, by all means in your power, to endeavor to establish a permanent union and good understanding among all degrees and orders of Masonry; and as the glorious sun, at its meridian height, dispels the mist and clouds which obscure the horizon, so may your

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exertions tend to dissipate the gloom of jealously and discord, whenever they may appear.

Your badge, *a Plumb-Rule surmounted by the Turban*, is emblem of rectitude and vigilance; and while you stand as a watchman on the tower, to guard your companions against the approach of those enemies of human felicity, *intemperance* and *excess*, let this faithful monitor ever remind you to walk uprightly in your station; admonishing and animating your companions to fidelity and industry while at labor, and to temperance and moderation while at refreshment. And when the Great Watchman of Israel, whose eye is never closed, shall relieve you from your post on earth, may he permit you in heaven to participate in that food and refreshment, which is

"Such as the saints in glory love,
And such as angels eat."

MUSIC OR AN ODE.

CHARGE TO THE TREASURER.

COMPANION: You are elected Treasurer of this chapter, and I have the pleasure of investing you with the badge of your office. The qualities which should recommend a Treasurer are *accuracy* and *fidelity;* accuracy in keeping a fair and minute account of all receipts and disbursements, and fidelity in carefully preserving all the property and funds of the chapter that may be placed in his hands, and rendering a just account of the same whenever he is called upon for that purpose. I presume that your respect for the institution, your attachment to the interests of your chapter, and your regard for a good name, which is better than precious ointment, will prompt you to the faithful discharge of the duties of your office.

CHARGE TO THE SECRETARY.

COMPANION: I with pleasure invest you with your badge as Secretary of this chapter. The qualities which should recommend a Secretary are *promptitude* in issuing such notifications as may be required, and also the orders

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of his superior; *punctuality* in attending the convocations of his chapter; *correctness* in recording its proceedings; *judgment* in discriminating between what is proper and what is improper to be committed to writing; *regularity* in making its annual returns to the Grand Chapter; *integrity* in accounting for all moneys that may pass through his hands; and *fidelity* in paying the same to the Treasurer. The possession of these good quatities, I presume, has designated you as a suitable candidate for this important office; and I cannot entertain a doubt that you will discharge its duties beneficially to the chapter and honorably to yourself. And when you shall have completed the record of your transactions here below, and finished the term of your probation, may you be admitted into the celestial Grand Chapter of saints and angels, and find your name *recorded in the Book of Life Eternal.*

CHARGE TO THE CHAPLAIN.

COMPANION: The sacred position of Chaplain has been entrusted to your care, and I now invest you with the jewel of your office.

In the discharge of your duties you will be required to conduct the devotional exercises of the convocations of your companions, and to perform the sacred functions of your holy calling at their meetings. Though Masonry be not Religion, it is emphatically Religion's handmaid; and I am sure that, in ministering at its altar, the services you may perform will lose nothing of their vital importance because they are practiced in that spirit of universal tolerance which distinguishes our institution. The doctrines of morality and virtue which you are accustomed to inculate to the world, as a minister of God, will form the appropriate lessons which you are expected to communicate to your companions. The profession which you have chosen as your lot in life is the best guaranty that you will discharge the duties of your present appointment with steadfastness and perseverance in well-doing.

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CHARGE TO THE CAPTAIN OF THE HOST.

COMPANION: The office with which you are entrusted is of high importance, and demands your most zealous consideration. The preservation of the most essential traits of our ancient customs, usages and landmarks are within your province; and it is indispensably necessary that the part assigned to you, in the immediate practice of our rites and ceremonies, should be perfectly understood, and correctly administered.

Your office corresponds with that of Marshal or Master of Ceremonies. You are to superintend all processions of your chapter, when moving as a distinct body, either in public or private; and as the world can only judge of our private discipline by our public deportment, you will be careful that the utmost order and decorum be observed on all such occasions. You will ever be attentive to the commands of your chief, and always near at hand to see them duly executed. I invest you with the badge of your office, and arm you with a sword, and I presume that you will give to your duties all that study and attention which their importance demands.

CHARGE TO THE PRINCIPAL SOJOURNER.

COMPANION: The office confided to you, though subordinate in degree, is equal in importance to any in the chapter, that of your chief alone excepted. Your office corresponds with that of *Senior Deacon*, in the preparatory degrees. Among the duties required of you, the preparation and introduction of candidates are not the least. As in our intercourse with the world, experience teaches that our first impressions are often the most durable, and the most difficult to eradicate; so it is of great importance, in all cases, that those impressions should be correct and just; hence it is essential that the officer who brings the blind by a way that they knew not, and leads them in paths that they have not known, should always be well qualified to

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make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight.

Your *robe of office* is an emblem of humility; and teaches that in the prosecution of a laudable undertaking, we should never decline taking any part that may be assigned us, although it may be most difficult or dangerous.

The *rose-colored tesselated border*, adorning the robe, is an emblem of ardor and perseverance, and signifies that when we have engaged in a virtuous course, notwithstanding all the impediments, hardships and trials we may be destined to encounter, we should endure them all with fortitude, and ardently persevere unto the end; resting assured of receiving, at the termination of our labors, a noble and glorious reward. Your past exertions will be considered as a pledge of your future assiduity in the faithful discharge of your duties.

CHARGE TO THE ROYAL ARCH CAPTAIN.

COMPANION: The well-known duties of your station require but little elucidation. Your office corresponds with that of *Junior Deacon*, in the preparatory degrees. It is your province, conjointly with the Captain of the Host, to attend the examination of all visitors, and to take care that none are permitted to enter the chapter but such as have *traveled the rugged path* of trial, and evinced their title to our favor and friendship. You will be attentive to obey the commands of the Captain of the Host, during *the introduction of strangers among the workmen;* so that should they be permitted to pass your post, they may by him be introduced into the presence of the Grand Council.

The *White Banner*, entrusted to your care, is emblematical of that *Purity* of heart and rectitude of conduct which ought to actuate all those who pass the white veil of the sanctuary. I give it to you strongly in charge, never to suffer any one to pass your post without the *Signet of Truth*.

I present you the badge of your office, and deliver this

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sword into your hands, in expectation of your performing your duties with intelligence, assiduity and propriety.

CHARGE TO THE MASETR OF THE THIRD VEIL.

COMPANION: I present you with the *Scarlet Banner*; which is the ensign of your office, and with a sword to protect and defend the same. The rich and beautiful color of your banner is emblematical of *Fervency* and *Zeal;* it is the appropriate color of the Royal Arch degree; and it admonishes us that should be *fervent* in the exercise of our devotions to God, and *zealous* in our endeavors to promote the happiness of man.

CHARGE TO THE MASTER OF THE SECOND VEIL.

COMPANION: I present you with the *Purple Banner*, which is the ensign of your office, and arm you with a sword, to enable you to maintain its honor.

The color of your banner is produced by a due admixture of *blue* and *scarlet;* the former of which is the characteristic color of the *symbolic* or *first three degrees of Masonry*, and the latter, that of the *Royal Arch degree*. It is an emblem of *Union*, and is the characteristic color of the intermediate degrees. It admonishes us to cultivate and improve that spirit of union and harmony, between the brethren of the symbolic degrees and the companions of the sublime degree, which should ever distinguish the members of a society founded upon the principles of everlasting truth and universal philanthropy.

CHARGE TO THE MASTER OF THE FIRST VEIL.

COMPANION: I present you with the *Blue Banner*, which is the ensign of your office, and arm you with a sword for its defense and protection. The color of your banner is one of the most durable and beautiful in nature. It is the appropriate color adopted and worn by our ancient brethren of the three symbolic degrees, and is the peculiar characteristic of an institution which has stood the test of

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ages, and which is as much distinguished by the durability of its materials or principles as by the beauty of its superstructure. It is an emblem of universal *Friendship* and *Benevolence*, and instructs us that, in the mind of a Mason, those virtues should be as expansive as the Blue Arch of Heaven itself.

CHARGE TO THE MASTERS OF THE FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD VEILS, AS OVERSEERS.

[Forming a triangle at the Altar on the side towards the W.·. and upholding their banners.]

COMPANIONS: Those who are placed as overseers of any work should be well qualified to judge of its beauties and deformities—its excellencies and its defects; they should be capable of estimating the former and amending the latter. This consideration should induce you to cultivate and improve all those qualifications, with which you are already endowed, as well as to persevere in your endeavors to acquire those in which you are deficient. Let the various *colors* of the *banners* committed to your charge admonish you to the exercise of the several virtues of which they are emblematic. You are to enjoin the practice of those virtues upon all who shall present themselves or the *work* of their hands for your inspection. Let no work receive your approbation but such as is calculated to adorn and strengthen the masonic edifice. Be industrious and faithful in practicing and disseminating a knowledge of that *true and perfect work*, which alone can stand the test of the *Grand Overseer's Square*, in the great day of trial and tribulation. Then, although every *rod* should become a *serpent*, and every serpent an enemy to this institution, yet shall their utmost exertions to destroy its reputation, or sap its foundations, become as impotent as the *leprous hand*, or as *water spilled upon the ground*, which cannot be gathered up again.

CHARGE TO THE SENTINEL.

COMPANION: You are appointed Sentinel of this chapter; and I now invest you with the badge, and

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this implement of your office. As the sword is placed in the hands of the Sentinel, to enable him effectually to guard against the approach of all *cowans and eavesdroppers*, and suffer none to pass or repass but such as are *auly qualified*, so it should morally serve as a constant admonition to us to set a guard at the entrance of our thoughts; to place a watch at the door of our lips; to post a sentinel at the avenue of our actions; thereby excluding every unqualified and unworthy thought, word and deed; and preserving consciences void of offense toward God and toward man.

As the first application from visitors for admission into the chapter is generally made to the Sentinel at the door, your station will often present you to the observation of strangers; it is, therefore, essentially necessary that he who sustains the office with which you are entrusted should be a man of good morals, steady habits, strict discipline, temperate, affable and discreet. I trust that a just regard for the honor and reputation of the institution will ever induce you to perform with fidelity the trust reposed in you; and when the door of this earthly tabernacle shall be closed, may you find an abundant entrance through the gates into the temple and city of our God.

MUSIC OR AN ODE.

ADDRESS TO THE HIGH PRIEST.

EXCELLENT COMPANION: Having been honored with the free suffrages of the members of this chapter, you are elected to the most important office in their power to bestow. This expression of their esteem and respect should draw from you corresponding emotions; and your demeanor should be such as to repay the honor which they have so conspicuously conferred upon you by an honorable and faithful discharge of the duties of your office. The station which you are called to fill is important, not only as it respects the correct practice of our rites and ceremonies and the internal economy of the chapter over which you preside, but the public reputation of the institution will be generally found

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to rise or fall according to the skill, fidelity and discretion with which its affairs are managed, and in proportion as the character and conduct of its principal officers deserve approbation or censure.

You have accepted a trust to which is attached a weight of responsibility which will require all your efforts to discharge honorably to yourself and satisfactorily to the Chapter. You are to see that your officers are capable and faithful, in the discharge of their duties. Should they lack ability, you are expected to supply their deficiencies; you are to watch carefully the progress of their performances and to see that the long established customs of the institution suffer no derangement in their hands. You are to have a careful eye over the general conduct of the chapter; see that due order and subordination are observed on all occasions; that the members are properly instructed; that due solemnity be observed in the practice of our rites; and that no improper levity be permitted at any time, but more especially *at the introduction of strangers among the workmen.*

In fine, you are to be an example to your officers and members, which they need not hesitate to follow; thus securing to yourself the favor of Heaven and the applause of your brethren and companions.

ADDRESS TO THE OFFICERS.

COMPANIONS IN OFFICE: Precept and example should ever advance with equal pace. Those moral duties which you are required to teach to others you should never neglect to practice yourselves. Do you desire that the demeanor of your equals and inferiors towards you should be marked with deference and respect? Be sure that you omit no opportunity of furnishing them with examples of your own conduct towards your superiors. Do you desire to obtain information from those who are more wise or better informed than yourselves? Be sure that you are always ready to impart of your knowledge to those within your sphere, who stand in need of, and are entitled to receive, it.

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Do you desire distinction among your companions? Be sure that your claims to preferment are founded upon superior attainments; let no ambitious passion be suffered to induce you to envy or supplant a companion who may be considered as better qualified for promotion than yourselves; but rather let a laudable emulation induce you to strive to excel each other in improvement and discipline; ever remembering that he who faithfully performs his duty, even in a subordinate or private station, is as justly entitled to esteem and respect as he who is invested with supreme authority.

ADDRESS TO THE CHAPTER.

COMPANIONS: The exercise and management of the degrees of Masonry in your chapter hitherto are so highly appreciated, and the good reputation of the chapter so well established, that I must presume these considerations alone, were there no others of greater magnitude, would be sufficient to induce you to preserve and perpetuate this valuable and honorable character. But when to these is added the pleasure which every philanthropic heart must feel in doing good, in promoting good order, in diffusing light and knowledge, in cultivating masonic charity, which are the great objects of this sublime institution. I cannot doubt that your future conduct, and that of your successors, will be such as to increase still more the lustre of your justly esteemed reputation.

May your *chapter* become *beautiful* as the *temple*, *peaceful* as the *ark*, and *sacred* as its *most holy place*. May your oblations of *piety* and *praise* be *grateful* as the *incense*, your love *warm* as its *flame*, and your charity diffusive as its fragrance. May your hearts be *pure* as the *altar*, and your conduct *acceptable* as the *offering*. May the exercises of your *charity* be as constant as the returning wants of the distressed *widow* and helpless *orphan*. May the approbation of Heaven be your encouragement, and the testimony of a good conscience your support; may you be endowed with every good and perfect gift, while *traveling* the *rugged path* of life and

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finally be *admitted within the veil* of Heaven, to the full enjoyment of life eternal.

The Grand Captain of the Host then makes the following proclamation:

In the name of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of the State of Michigan, I proclaim the officers of..... Chapter, No....., to be duly installed into their respective offices.

The private Grand Honors are then given.

If the installation takes place in public, the expression will be "with the public Grand Honors of Masonry by three times three,'' and the public Grand Honors will be given.

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CEREMONIAL

FOR THE

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

OF A

GRAND CHAPTER.

ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER IN 1856.

At the time appointed for the installation, the Grand Chapter being opened on the Royal Arch degree, the chair must be taken by some Grand or Deputy Grand High Priest, or, if none be present, by some Past Grand Officer who is, or has been, a High Priest.

The highest Grand or Past Grand Officer present then introduces the Grand High Priest-elect, divested of the jewels and robes of his office, to the Installing Officer, saying:

MOST EXCELLENT: I present before you Companion ....., who having been duly elected Grand High Priest of the Royal Arch Masons of the State of Michigan, now declares himself ready for installation.

The Grand High Priest elect then turning and facing the companions, the Installing Officer says:

COMPANIONS: You behold before you Companion ...., who has been duly elected to preside over you as your Grand High Priest, and who now declares himself ready for installation. If any of you have any reasons to urge why he should not be installed, you will make your objections known now, or else forever hereafter hold your peace.

If no objections are made he will say:

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Hearing no objections, I shall proceed to install him.

The Installing Officer then administers the following obligation of office to the officers-elect—all the companions standing:

I.....do promise and swear that I will serve as Grand High Priest of the Royal Arch Masons of the State of Michigan, for the term for which I have been elected, and will perform all the duties of that office to the best of my abilities, and will support and maintain the Constitution and General Regulations of the Grand Chapter of Michigan and those of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America. So help me God.

The Grand Chaplain shall then offer the following

PRAYER.

Most holy and gracious Lord God, the Great High Priest of Heaven and Earth! We approach thee with reverence, and implore thy blessing on the companion chosen to preside over our ancient fraternity; fill his heart with thy fear, that his tongue and actions may pronounce thy will; Make him steadfast in thy service; grant him firmness of mind and kindness of disposition; teach him to rule his brethren, not with a rod of iron, but with justice and equity; animate his heart and strengthen his endeavors to do good. May he inculcate thy judgments and thy laws, and do all that his high office requires, with an eye single to thy glory and the good of the Craft! Bless him, and bless those thou has put under him; and grant that when we shall have finished the work of this earthly temple of our bodies, we may be admitted to the glories of that second temple of the spirit, eternal in the heavens.

Glory be to God on high.

Response by all the companions:

Response: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. So mote it be.

The Installing Officer will then invest the Grand High Priest-elect with the robes and jewels of his office, after which he will deliver to him the following.

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CHARGE.

MOST EXCELLENT: By the voice of your companions you have been chosen to occupy the most important and the most honorable office in their power to bestow; and to me has been intrusted the pleasing duty of investing you with its insignia.

You have been too long a member of our ancient and honorable Craft to require now any instructions in relation to the duties of your office; and I do not doubt that you will be constant and regular in your attendence on the convocations of the Grand Chapter; watching with fidelity and diligence the conduct of the subordinate bodies within your jurisdiction; paying punctual attention to the constitution of our Order, and requiring a due obedience to it from every member; and, in all things, making the glory of the Grand High Priest of the universe, and the good of the Craft, the chief objects of your regard.

The ancient landmarks of the Order, by which we are distinguished from the rest of the world, are peculiarly entrusted to your care; and it therefore becomes your most sacred duty to see that, during your administration, not the least of them may be removed.

From our knowledge of your zeal and ability, we feel confident that you will discharge the duties of this important station in such a manner as will greatly redound to the honor of yourself, as well as the fraternity over whom you have been elected to preside.

Let the *Mitre* with which you are crowned remind you of the dignity of the office you sustain, and its inscription impress upon your mind a sense of your dependence upon God;—that perfection is not given unto man upon earth, and that holiness belongeth unto the Lord alone.

The *Breast-Plate*, with which you are decorated, an imitation of that upon which were engraven the names of the twelve tribes, and worn by the High Priest of Israel, is

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to teach you that you are always to bear in mind your responsibility to the laws and ordinances of the institution, and that the honor and interests of the Royal Craft should be always near your heart.

The *various colors* of the *Robes* you wear are emblematical of every grace and virtue which can adorn and beautify the human mind, whose cultivation and constant practice are as necessary to your own present and future happiness as they are, by the example they will afford, to the prosperity of the Craft over whom you are placed.

You will now assume your station in the East, and instruct your subordinates in the duties which they are respectively required to discharge.

After he has taken his seat, the Grand Captain of the Host will say:

COMPANIONS: In the name of the Most High God, I proclaim Companion..... Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Royal Arch Masons of Michigan with the Grand Honors of Royal Arch Masonry by three times three.

The Grand Honors of Royal Arch Masonry are then given. The Deputy Grand High Priest is then presented to the Grand High Priest in the same way. Having been obligated and invested with his badge, he receives the following charge:

CHARGE TO THE DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

RIGHT EXCELLENT: The station to which you have been called by your companions is one of great dignity and importance. In many cases your powers and prerogatives are co-extensive with those of your chief; and at all times you are, if he be present, to assist him with your counsel and co-operation, and, in his absence, to preside over the Craft. But while your powers and privileges are thus extensive, remember that they bring with them a heavy share of responsibility. The honor that has been conferred upon you, and the trust that has been reposed in you, demand a corresponding fidelity and attachment to the interests of

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those to whose kindness and confidence you are indebted for your official elevation.

The significance of the robes you wear, you have already heard explained. May the symbolic lessons which they convey be deeply impressed upon your mind and heart, and ever influence your conduct.

The Grand King is then presented, in the following words:

MOST EXCELLENT: I present before you Companion ..... who has been duly elected to serve this Grand Chapter as Grand King, and who now declares himself ready for installation.

The Grand King elect then turning and facing the Companions, the Grand High Priest says:

COMPANIONS; You behold before you Companion .... who has been duly elected to serve this Grand Chapter as Right Excellent Grand King, and who now declares himself ready for installation. If any of you have reasons to urge why he should not be installed, you will make them known now, or else forever hereafter hold your peace.

If no objections are made, he will say:

Hearing no objections, I shall proceed to install him.

The Grand High Priest will then cause the Grand King (having first been obligated) to be invested with the robes and jewels of his office, and deliver to him the following:

CHARGE TO THE GRAND KING.

RIGHT EXCELLENT COMPANION: The important station to which you have been elected requires from you exemplarly conduct; and your duties demand your most assiduous attention. In the absence of the Grand High Priest and the Deputy Grand High Priest, you are to preside; in their presence you are to strengthen and support the authority of your chief, and to aid him by your counsel and advice.

The *Scarlet Robe*, an emblem of royal dignity, should remind you of the paternal concern you should ever feel for

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our institution, and the *Fervency* and *Zeal* with which you should endeavor to promote its prosperity.

In presenting you with the Crown, which is an emblem of royalty, I would remind you that to reign sovereign in the hearts and affections of men must be far more grateful to a generous and benevolent mind than to rule over their lives and fortunes; and that to enable you to enjoy this pre-eminence with honor and satisfaction, you must subject your own passions and prejudices to the dominion of reason and charity.

The Grand Scribe is then obligated and invested with the robe and insignia of his office.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND SCRIBE.

RIGHT EXCELLENT COMPANION: The office of Grand Scribe, to which you are elected, is very important and respectable. In the absence of your superior officers you are bound to succeed them and to perform their duties. The purposes of the institution ought never to suffer for want of intelligence in its proper officers; you will therefore perceive the necessity there is of your possessing such qualifications as will enable you to accomplish those duties which are incumbent upon you, in your appropriate station, as well as those which may occasionally devolve on you by the absence of your superiors.

The *Purple Robe*, with which you are invested, is an emblem of *Union*, and is calculated to remind you that the harmony and unanimity of the Order should be your constant aim; and to this end you are studiously to avoid all occasions of giving offense, or countenancing anything that may create divisions or dissensions. You are, by all means in your power, to endeavor to establish a permanent union and good understanding among all orders and degrees of Masonry; and as the glorious sun, at its meridian height, dispels the mist and clouds which obscure the horizon, so may your exertions tend to dissipate the gloom of jealousy and discord, whenever they may appear.

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The remaining officers are introduced and obligated in the same way, after which each receives his special charge, as follows:

CHARGE TO THE GRAND TREASURER.

RIGHT EXCELLENT COMPANION: You have been elected to the responsible office of Grand Treasurer, and I now invest you with the badge of your office.

It is your duty to receive all moneys due the Grand Chapter from the hands of the Grand Secretary; make due entries of the same and pay them out by order of the Grand High Priest, and with the consent and approbation of the Grand Chapter. The office to which you have been elected embraces an important trust, and the choice of you by your companions is an evidence of the high opinion they entertain of your fidelity and discretion.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND SECRETARY.

RIGHT EXCELLENT COMPANION: You have been elected to the important office of Grand Secretary, and I now invest you with the jewel of your office.

It is your duty to receive all moneys due the Grand Chapter, and pay them over to the Grand Treasurer, taking his receipt for the same; to observe all the proceedings of the Grand Chapter, and to make a true record of all things proper to be written. You are also the official organ of the Grand Chapter, and in that capacity will conduct its various correspondence, and act as the medium of intercourse between the fraternity and their presiding officer. In the discharge of these important duties, let your carriage and behavior be marked with that promptitude and discretion that will at once reflect credit on yourself and honor on the body whom you represent.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND CHAPLAIN.

RIGHT EXCELLENT AND REVEREND COMPANION: The sacred position of Grand Chaplain has been entrusted to your care, and I now invest you with the jewel of your office.

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In the discharge of your duties you will be required to conduct the devotional exercises of our Grand convocations and to perform the sacred functions of your holy calling at our Public Ceremonies Though Masonry be not Religion, it is emphatically Religion's handmaid; and I am sure that, in ministering at its altar, the services you may perform will lose nothing of their vital importance because they are practiced in that spirit of universal tolerance which distinguishes our institution. The doctrines of morality and virtue which you are accustomed to incuclate to the world, as a minister of God, will form the appropriate lessons which you are expected to communicate to your companions. The profession which you have chosen as your lot in life is the best guaranty that you will discharge the duties of your present appointment with steadfastness and perseverance in well-doing.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE HOST.

EXCELLENT COMPANION; The office with which you have been entrusted is of great importance, and requires much skill and attention for the faithful discharge of its duties, which are those of a marshal, or master of ceremonies.

You are to superintend all processions of the Grand Chapter, when moving as a distinct body, either in public or private; and as the world can only judge of our private discipline by our public deportment, you will be careful that the utmost order and decorum be observed on all such occasions. You will ever be attentive to the commands of your chief, and always near at hand to see them duly executed. I invest you with the badge of your office, and presume that you will give to your duties all that study and attention which their importance demands. I present you with this sword as the appropriate implement of your office.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND PRINCIPAL SOJOURNER.

EXCELLENT COMPANION: The office confided to you is one of great importance, though subordinate in degree.

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Occupying a station which corresponds to that of Senior Deacon in the lower degrees, it becomes your duty to obey and extend the orders of your superiors, and to act as their proxies in the active business of the Grand Chapter. Attention, obedience and promptitude are, therefore, essentially necessary for the faithful performance of your duties. I present you with the rod, a symbol of command, as the proper ensign of your office.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND ROYAL ARCH CAPTAIN.

EXCELLENT COMPANION: The office to which you have been elected nearly corresponds to that of Junior Deacon in the inferior degrees. It is, therefore, your duty to see that the external avenues of the Grand Chapter are securely guarded, and that none are permitted to pass or repass but such as are duly qualified and have the requisite permission. Let vigilance and attention, therefore, actuate you in the discharge of the functions of your important office; for the more faithful performance of which, I entrust this sword to your keeping.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND MASTER OF THE THIRD VEIL.

EXCELLENT COMPANION: I present you with the *Scarlet Banner*, which is the ensign of your office, and with a sword to protect and defend the same. The rich and beautiful color of your banner is emblematical of *Fervency* and *Zeal;* and is the appropriate color of the Royal Arch degree; it admonishes us that we should be fervent in the exercise of our devotions to God, and zealous in our endeavors to promote the happiness of man.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND MASTER OF THE SECOND VEIL.

EXCELLENT COMPANION: I present you with the *Purple Banner*, which is the ensign of your office, and arm you with a sword, to maintain its honor.

The color of your banner is produced by a due admixture of *blue* and *scarlet;* the former of which is the char-

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acteristic color of the *symbolic* or *first three degrees of Masonry*, and the latter, that of the *Royal Arch degree*. It is an emblem of *Union*, and is the characteristic color of the intermediate degrees. It admonishes us to cultivate and improve the spirit of union and harmony, between the brethren of the symbolic degrees which should ever distinguish the members of a society founded upon the principles of everlasting truth and universal philanthropy.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND MASTER OF THE FIRST VEIL.

EXCELLENT COMPANION: I present you with the *Blue Banner*, which is the ensign of your office, and arm you with a sword for its defense and protection. The color of your banner is one of the most durable and beautiful in nature. It is the appropriate color adopted and worn by our ancient brethren of the three symbolic degrees, and is the peculiar characteristic of an institution which has stood the test of ages, and which is as much distinguished by the durability of its materials or principles as by the beauty of its superstructure. It is an emblem of universal *Friendship* and *Benevolence*, and instructs us that, in the mind of a Mason, these virtues should be as expansive as the Blue Arch of Heaven itself.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND SENTINEL.

EXCELLENT COMPANION: You have been appointed Grand Sentinel of this Grand Chapter, and I now invest you with the jewel of your office, and place this sword in your hands, the more effectually to enable you to repel the approach of cowans and eavesdroppers, and to guard against surprise.

It is your duty to guard the door of the Grand Chapter on the outside; to report to the Grand Royal Arch Captain those who desire to be admitted; to place the chapter room in order for convocations; and to attend to such other duties as may be required of you by the Grand Chapter. Your

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punctual attendance is essentially necessary at every convocation.

The Grand Captain of the Host then makes proclamation as follows:

By authority of the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of the State of Michigan, I proclaim that the Grand Officers have been installed in ample form, with the Grand Honors of Masonry, by three times three.

The public or private Honors of Masonry, accordingly as the installation shall have been publicly or privately conducted, shall then be given, and the installation ceremony will be concluded.

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CEREMONIAL

FOR THE

Reception of Grand Officers

AT VISITATIONS.

Whenever the Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe or other Grand Officer, intends to visit a chapter officially, he should notify its High Priest of the intended visit.

The chapter is opened on the Royal Arch degree.

The visiting officer being announced, he is received by the chapter standing.

Should the visitor be the Grand High Priest and accompanied by his Grand Officers, the following order of procession will be observed:

Grand Captain of the Host.
Grand Royal Arch Captain.
Grand Secretary. Grand Treasurer.
Grand Chaplain.
Grand Scribe. Grand King.
Deputy Grand High Priest.
Grand High Priest.

The Grand Sentinel remains at the door.

They pass through the veils being saluted by the Masters of the Veils as they pass; and on arriving at the East, they open to the right and left, and the Grand and Deputy Grand High Priest, accompanied by the Grand King and Scribe, pass through to the Sanctum Sanctorum. The Grand Council receive them according to ancient usage, and

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the High Priest resigns his gavel and the chair to the Grand High Priest and his council.

The private grand honors are then given and the officers of the chapter resign their seats to the corresponding Grand Officers. The High Priest then presents to the Grand High Priest, the charter or warrant of the chapter, the Treasurer's and Secretary's books, and a statement of the funds of the chapter, for his inspection. If work is to be presented for inspection, the Grand High Priest will order the Grand Officers to vacate their several stations, and the officers of the chapter to assume them, for the purpose of presenting their work. After the work has been completed, the Grand Officers will again assume their appropriate stations. The Grand High Priest will then make such remarks as he may deem proper, from his inspection of the work and examination of the books.

The Grand High Priest then resigns the chair to the High Priest of the chapter, and the Grand Officers leave their seats, which are re-assumed by the officers of the chapter, and repair to the East.

Should the Grand Officers retire before the chapter is closed, the same ceremony must be observed as at their entrance.

On ordinary visitations of any of the Grand Officers to a subordinate chapter, they shall be received as follows:

The Grand High Priest shall be received by the Captain of the Host and Royal Arch Captain at the door, the chapter standing, and conducted to a seat on the right of the High Priest, who offers him the gavel.

The Deputy Grand High Priest shall be received by the Captain of the Host at the door and conducted to a seat on the left of the High Priest, who offers him the gavel.

The Grand King, or Grand Scribe shall be received at the door by the Royal Arch Captain, and conducted to seats, the Grand King on the right, and the Grand Scribe on the left of the Grand Council.

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The Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary and Grand Chaplain or other Grand Officers should be received by the Royal Arch Captain at the White Veil, and conducted to seats; the Grand Treasurer on the right, and the Grand Secretary and Grand Chaplain on the left of the Grand Council.

These honors shall not be paid to the Grand Officers unless they cause themselves to be officially announced as such at the door of the chapter by the Sentinel.

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CEREMONIAL

FOR

GENERAL VISITATIONS.

When a companion visits a chapter and has been examined or vouched for, the High Priest will send the Royal Arch Captain to receive him at the door, who will conduct him to the west of the altar and introduce him as follows:

"Excellent High Priest, I have the pleasure of introducing to you companion————of————chapter."

The High Priest call up the chapter and says:

Companion, it gives me pleasure to introduce to you the members of————chapter, and to welcome you to a seat among us. We meet on the————and shall be very glad to welcome you to any of these meetings."

The Royal Arch Captain conducts the visitor to a seat and the chapter is seated.

No companion should be allowed to visit a chapter for the first time without an introduction. If the visitor is a present or Past High Priest, he should be invited to a seat in the East.

The High Priest should take great care to extend the proper courtesies to visiting companions and to make them feel that they are welcome.

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BLANK FORMS.

PETITION FOR A DISPENSATION TO OPEN AND HOLD A NEW CHAPTER.

....., Mich.,
..... 19...

To the Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of the State of Michigan:

We, the undersigned, being Royal Arch Masons in good standing, and having the prosperity of the Royal Craft at heart, are anxious to exert our best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Royal Arch Masonry, and for the convenience of our respective dwellings and other good reasons, us thereunto moving, we are desirous of forming a new chapter at ....., in the.....of.... ....., to be named..... ....Chapter, No.....

We, therefore, pray for a dispensation empowering us to Open and Hold a Regular Chapter at.....aforesaid, and therein to discharge the duties and enjoy the privileges of Royal Arch Masonry, according to the landmarks and usages of the order, and the constitution and laws of the Grand Chapter.

And we do hereby nominate and recommend Companion..... to be our first Excellent High Priest; Companion..... .....to be our first King; and Companion.....to be our first Scribe.

And should the prayer of this petition be granted, we do hereby promise a strict conformity to the constitution, laws and edicts of the Grand Chapter of the State of Michigan, and to the constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, so far as they may come to our knowledge.

[This dispensation must be signed by not less than nine Royal Arch Masons, holding certificates of dimit, which dimits shall accompany the application.]

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FORM OF RECOMMENDATION.

To the Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Michigan.

At a regular convocation of.....Chapter, No....., holden at ....on the day of....., A. D. 19...., A.·.I.·.24.

The petition of several companions, praying for a dispensation to open a new chapter at....., in the.....of....., was duly laid before the chapter, when it was

Resolved, That this chapter, being fully satisfied that the petitioners are Royal Arch Masons in good standing, and being prepared to vouch for their moral characters and Masonic abilities, does, therefore, recommend that the Dispensation prayed for be granted to them.

A true copy of the records.

[SEAL.] ....., *Secretary.*

FORM OF DISPENSATION.

GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS, OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN.

To All Whom it may Concern:

Know ye, That I,.....,Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of the State of Michigan, have received a petition from a constitutional number of companions, who have been properly vouched for and recommended, which petition sets forth that they are desirous of forming a new chapter at.....,in the.....of.....;

And Whereas, there appears to me to be good and sufficient cause for granting the prayer of said petition: Now, therefore, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the constitutions of the order, I do hereby grant this my dispension, authorizing and empowering Companion..... ..to act as Excellent High Priest; Companion.....to act as King, and companion.....to act as Scribe, of a chapter to be holden at.....,in the..... ...of..... ...,to be named and designated as.....chapter.

And I do hereby further authorize and empower the said companions, with the necessary assistance, to open and hold Lodges of Mark, Past and Most Excellent Masters, and a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and therein to advance, induct, receive and acknowledge candidates in the several preparatory degrees, and to exalt the same to the Holy Royal Arch, according to the ancient landmarks and usages of the order, and the constitutions of the Grand Chapter of the State of Michigan, and of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, but not otherwise.

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And this dispensation shall remain of force until the Grand Chapter aforesaid shall grant a warrant of constitution for the said chapter, or until it shall be revoked by me, or by the authority of the Grand Chapter,

Given under my hand and private seal at .....this..... day of.....,A. D. 19....,A. I. 24.....

.... *Grand High Priest.*

(Private Seal.)

FORM OF CHARTER.

To all Royal Arch Masons, Wheresoever Dispersed Around the Globe: the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Michigan, Assembled in Grand Convocation in the..... .....send greeting:

Whereas, A petition has been presented to us from .... all Royal Arch Masons, praying for a charter extending and confirming unto them the rights and privileges of a regularly constituted chapter of Royal Arch Masons; and

Whereas, The aforesaid petitioners have exhibited to this Grand Chapter satisfactory evidence that they will conduct the business of Masonry agreeably to the original design, the constitution and by-laws of this Grand Chapter, and the Regulations and Edicts of the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America:

Now, therefore, be it known, that we, the Grand Chapter aforesaid, reposing special trust and confidence in the integrity, masonic abilities and well-known attachment of the aforesaid petitioners to the sublime principles of Masonry, and believing that the true interests of the institution will be promoted by granting the prayer of said petitioners, have constituted and appointed, and do by these presents constitute and appoint, the said..... .... and their associates, a regular and constitutional chapter of Royal Arch Masons, by the name, style and title of.....Chapter, No.....; and we do hereby appoint Companion .....first High Priest; Companion ...., first King, and Companion..... ....., first Scribe, hereby giving unto them and their successors full power and authority to assemble together on all lawful and proper occasions, as a legal chapter, within the.....of ...., County of....., and State aforesaid; and to confer upon all good and worthy Master Masons who may apply for the same, the several degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and

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Royal Arch Mason: Also, to elect annually a High Priest, King, Scribe and such other officers as are necessary for the due organization and proper government of a regular chapter of Royal Arch Masons, agreeably to ancient usage; to admit members; to collect funds for the relief of poor and distressed companions, their widows and orphans; to make by-laws and ordinances for their own government; and to do and transact all such matters and things as are proper and lawful to be done in such assembly.

And, furthermore, we do hereby declare the rank and precedence of he said chapter in our Grand Chapter, and elsewhere, to date from the .....day of....., A. D. 19.... And we do hereby require the aforesaid constituted chapter to attend the Grand Chapter at their annual Grand Convocation, by their High Priest, King and Scribe, or by their proxies duly appointed, or by the representatives of said.....chapter; also to keep a fair and regular record of all their proceedings, and to lay them before the Grand Chapter when required; to be punctual in their annual returns, and in the payment of such sums as may be assessed for the support of our said Grand Chapter.

And, furthermore, we do hereby enjoin it upon the said..... chapter to conform in all their doings to the constitution and by-laws of this Grand Chapter and the edicts and regulations of the General Grand Chapter, of the United States of America, and in failure whereof, this charter, and the powers herein granted, are to cease, and to be of no further validity.

In Testimony Whereof, We, the Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King and Grand Scribe, by virtue of the high power and authority in us vested, have hereunto set our hands and caused the seal of the said Grand Chapter to be affixed, at. ....., in the State of Michigan, this.....day of....., A. D. 19.... and A. I. 24....

. .....*G. H. P.* ..... *D. G. H. P.*

....*G. K.* ....*G. S.*

[L. S.]

Attest:

.....*Grand Secretary.*

CERTIFICATE OF PROXY, AUTHORIZING A PAST HIGH PRIEST TO CONSTITUTE A NEW CHAPTER, AND TO INSTALL ITS OFFICERS.

To All Whom it may Concern:

But more especially to Companions..... Excellent High Priest-elect;.... .....King-elect. .....Scribe-elect, and the other companions who have been empowered by a warrant of constitution issued under the authority of the Most Excellent Grand Chap-

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ter of Michigan, to assemble as a regular chapter at.....in the.. .....of .....,and to be known and designated as..... chapter, No.....

Know ye, That, reposing all trust and confidence on the skill, prudence and integrity of our Excellent Companion..... ..I have thought proper—being myself unable to attend—to nominate and appoint the said Excellent Companion.....to constitute, in form, the companions aforesaid into a regular chapter, and to install the officers-elect according to the ancient usages of the craft, and for so doing this shall be his sufficient warrant.

Given under my hand and seal, at..... this.....day of.... .....in the year of light 59....and of the discovery 24....

[SEAL.] .....*Grand High Priest.*

FORM OF A CERTIFICATE FOR A PROXY IN THE GRAND CHAPTER.

To the Grand Chapter of Michigan:

This is to certify that I have hereby appointed Companion..... my proxy, to represent me as.....of .....chapter, No....., in the convocation of the Grand Chapter, to be holden at ....., on the.....day of.....19 ...

Witness my hand and seal at.....this.....day of....., 19....

....

.....of .....Chapter, No....

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

To the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter, R. A. M. of Michigan:

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that at the annual election of officers of..... .....Chapter, No.....R. A. M., held this evening, Companion .....was elected High Priest, Companion.....King, Companion.....Scribe and Companion.....Secretary for the ensuing masonic year.

The P. O. address of the High Priest elect is,

....

The P. O. address of the Secretary elect is

.....

Dated.....19....

[SEAL.]

.....Secretary.

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PETITION FOR CAPITULAR DEGREES.

To the Excellent High Priest, King, Scribe and Companions of.....
Chapter No..... R. A. M.

The undersigned, a Master Mason, now and for the last three months a member in good standing of.....Lodge, No....., under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of... .....having resided within the jurisdiction of your chapter for the six months last preceding the date of this petition, and having the good of the craft at heart, being desirous of obtaining further light in Masonry, fraternally offers himself as a candidate for the degrees conferred in your chapter.

Should his petition be granted, he promises a cheerful compliance with all the laws, regulations, forms and usages of the Royal Craft.

He has .....heretofore applied to..... Chapter, No..... in the state of.....and.....been rejected.

His residence is.....county of.....and state of Michigan, and his occupation is..... .....

He was born in....., county of.....and state of .....on the... .....day of.....18....

He received the Master Mason's degree in.....Lodge, No.... state of....., on the.....day of..... 19....

Signed..... .....
(Applicant should not use initials but sign full name.)

Recommended by P. O. address, ...
....
....

Dated.....19....

The regular fee of $.. .accompanies this petition.

REPORT ON PETITION FOR THE DEGREES.

To the Excellent High Priest, King, Scribe and Companions of.....
Chapter, No....., R. A. M.:

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Brother..... for the chapter degrees, have made the necessary and proper inquiries touching the character and standing of the petitioner, and his fitness to become a member of this chapter.

We find that he has been a Master Mason for at least three months, and is now a member of.....Lodge, No.....located at.....

That he has.....resided within the jurisdiction of this chapter for the last six months.

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That he is.....physically competent for admission.

That he has.....applied to.....Chapter, ...

.....

That his company and associates are not of a character that will bring discredit upon the order.

The result of our investigation.....being of a satisfactory nature we recommend that his petition be.....granted.

Dated.....19

Signed.....

.....

.....

PETITION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

To the Excellent High Priest, King, Scribe and Companions of.. .....
Chapter, No.....R. A. M.

The undersigned, a Royal Arch Mason, formerly a member of..... Chapter, No.....at.....under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of.....and now a member of ....Lodge, No..... F. & A. M. at..... ..... under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of .....respectfully petitions to be admitted a member of your chapter.

His residence is in.....County of..... and state of Michigan. His occupation is.....

He was born in.....state of..... .....on the day of.....18....

He received the Master Mason's degree in.....Lodge, No.... state of.....on the.....day of..... 1....

Signed, ...
(Applicant should not use initials but sign full name.)

Recommended by P. O. Address, ...

....

.....

Dated.....19....

REPORT ON PETITION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

To the Excellent High Priest, King, Scribe and Companions of.....
Chapter... R. A. M.

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Companion.....

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.....for membership, have made the necessary and proper inquires touching the character and standing of the petitioner, and his fitness to become a a member of this chapter.

We find that he is now a member of.... . .....Lodge, No.... located at..... ....

That his dimit is in proper form and was granted by..... Chapter, No.....under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of..... ...

That his company and associates are not of a character that will bring discredit upon the order.

The result of our investigation....being of a satisfactory nature we recommend that his petition be.....granted.

Dated.....19

Signed.....

PETITION FOR DIMIT.

To the Excellent High Priest, King, Scribe and Companions of..... Chapter No.... R. A. M.

The undersigned represents that he is a Royal Arch Mason in good and regular standing in.....Chapter, No.....and is clear on the books in said chapter, and having removed from its jurisdiction, is desirous of dimitting therefrom, and respectfully asks that a dimit be granted him.

[SIGNED]..... ....

Dated,..... .....19.... P. O. Address.... .....

CERTIFICATE OF DIMIT.

Ne Varietur.

To All Royal Arch Masons to Whom These Presents Shall Come, Greeting:

This is to certify *That Companion*.....is, at the date of these presents, a Royal Arch Mason, in good and regular standing, and that having paid all dues, and being free from all charges, he is, at his own request, by the vote of the chapter, dismissed from membership in.... .....Chapter, No....., under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Michigan.

[Seal of the Chapter.]

Given under my hand, and under the seal and by order of the said chapter, at.... this.....day of....., in the year of light 59.., and of the discovery 24...

....*Secretary.*

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PETITION FOR DIMIT TO FORM NEW CHAPTER.

To the Excellent High Priest, King, Scribe and Companions of.....
Chapter, No....R. A. M.

The undersigned represents that he is a Royal Arch Mason in good and regular standing in.....Chapter, No.... . and is clear on the books in said chapter and is desirous of dimitting therefrom, for the purpose of joining with others in forming a new chapter at.....and respectfully asks that a dimit be granted him for that purpose.

[SIGNED].....
Dated,.....19 .... P. O. Address,.....

CERTIFICATE OF DIMIT

TO JOIN WITH OTHERS IN FORMING A NEW CHAPTER.

To the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter R. A. M. of Michigan:

This is to certify that Companion.....a Royal Arch Mason in good standing in.....Chapter, No.....located at..... Michigan; and not under charges nor indebted to his said chapter, is by his own request, granted this dimit for the purpose of joining with others in forming a new chapter to be located at.....Michigan. This dimit to become operative and his membership in the first mentioned chapter to cease only when due notice has been received from you that the said new chapter has been regularly chartered and constituted, and that his name appears as a member thereof.

In testimony whereof, the High Priest and Secretary of the said..... .....Chapter, No.....have hereto subscribed their names and affixed the chapter seal at.....this .....day of.....19....

[Seal.] .....H. P.

Attest:

.....Secretary.

[NOTE TO SECRETARY—This certificate is NOT to be given to the companion whose name appears therein, but must be sent to the Grand Secretary by the Secretary of the chapter issuing it.]

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APPLICATION FOR DIMIT TO JOIN A CONCURRENT CHAPTER.

To the High Priest, King, Scribe and Companions of.....Chapter, No.....R. A. M.:

The subscriber, a member of your chapter, desiring to change his membership to.....Chapter, No.....having concurrent jurisdiction, prays that a dimit may be granted him for the purpose of consummating such change of membership.

Dated..... .....

Signed.....

CERTIFICATE OF DIMIT

FOR JOINING A CONCURRENT CHAPTER.

To the High Priest, King, Scribe and Companions of.....Chapter, No..... R. A. M. of Michigan.

GREETING:

This is to certify that Companion..... a Royal Arch Mason in good standing in..... ...Chapter, No...., located at....., Michigan, and not under charges nor indebted to his said chapter, is, by his own request, granted this dimit for the purpose of becoming a member of your said chapter, the same to become operative only when this chapter shall have received the attached certificate setting forth the fact that he has consummated his membership in your said chapter by signing the by-laws thereof.

If such new membership be not so consummated within three months from this date, this dimit will become null and void, and should be returned to this chapter for cancellation.

In testimony whereof, the High Priest and Secretary of the said..... .....Chapter, No...., have hereunto subscribed their names and affixed the chapter seal, this.... ...day of.....19....

[SEAL.]

Attest; .....H. P.

.....Secretary.

[NOTE TO SECRETARIES—This certificate is not to be given to the companion whose name appears therein, but must be sent by the secretary of the chapter issuing it to the secretary of the chapter of which the companion seeks to become a member.]

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CERTIFICATE OF MEMBERSHIP.

To the High Priest, King, Scribe and Companions of.....Chapter, No... R. A. M. of Michigan.

Your chapter is hereby notified that Companion.....having been accepted on a regular dimit granted by your chapter, has consummated his membership in.....Chapter, No....located at.....Michigan, by signing the by-laws thereof on the....day of..... 19....

[SEAL.] .....Secretary

WITHDRAWAL CERTIFICATE.

THIS IS NOT A DIMIT AND CARRIES WITH IT NO MASONIC STANDING.

This is to certify, that..... .....a member in good standing of.....Chapter, No.....R. A. M. under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Michigan, having discharged all indebtedness against him and being free from all charges, is hereby, at his own request, *dropped from the roll of membership in said chapter*, and has voluntarily relinquished all claims to any of the rights and benefits of Royal Arch Masonry.

Reason.....

In testimony whereof, this certificate is granted him, and the High Priest and Secretary of the said chapter have hereunto subscribed their names and affixed the chapter seal at.....this.....day of..... in the year 19....

[SEAL.] .....H. P.

Attest:

....Secretary.

NOTIFICATION OF DUES.

....Chapter, No....R. A. M.

....

Dear Sir and Companion:

I have been instructed by.....Chapter, No....R. A. M., to notify you that the amount of your dues is now $.....

You will please enclose or hand the amount to me at your earliest convenience.

Fraternally yours,

....Secretary.

The dues are now $....per annum.

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CHARGES FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

To the High Priest, King, Scribe and Companions of..... .....Chapter, No.....Royal Arch Masons:

The undersigned, Scribe of.....Chapter, No.....R. A. M., in the performance of his official duties, solemnly charges Companion .... First, that companion was duly notified of the amount of his dues to said.....Chapter, attested by the Secretary thereof, on the ....day of.....A. D. 19....and notified to pay the same, and being so notified, he, the said Companion.....did not answer said notice, or show cause why he did not.

All of which is in violation of his obligation, and the undersigned therefore prays that the honor and dignity of Royal Arch Masonry may be vindicated by the exercise of masonic discipline upon the foresaid companion, if the aforesaid charges shall be sustained.

Dated..... ....A. D. 19....

.....Scribe.

SUMMONS TO APPEAR.

Hall of.....Chapter, No ...Royal Arch Masons.

To Companion..... .....

You are summoned and required to appear at the regular convocation of..... ...Chapter, No....Royal Arch Masons, to be held at its hall at.....County of.....and State of Michigan, on the..... .....day of.....A. D., 19....at....o'clock P. M., then and there to answer the charges and specifications now on file against you in said chapter; a true copy of which charges and specifications is hereunto annexed.

Dated.....19.... By order of the chapter.

.....

[Seal.] Secretary.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE.

To the High Priest, King, Scribe and Companions of.....Chapter, No.....R. A. M.

This is to certify that I,.....Secretary of..... ....Chapter, No....R. A. M., did on the.....day of.....19.... at..... .....o'clock, personally serve a copy of the annexed charges and summons upon Companion..... .....

Signed.

.....

Secretary

WITNESS SUMMONS.

To Companion.....a member of.....Chapter, No..... Royal Arch Masons:

You are hereby summoned and required to appear at a regular convocation of.....Chapter, No.....Royal Arch Masons, to be held at its Hall in.....County of.....and State of Michigan, on the.....day of.....A. D. 19....at....o'clock, P. M., then and there to give evidence in the case of Companion.....against whom charges and specifications are now on file.

Dated..... ...19....

By order of the chapter.

.....

[SEAL.] Secretary.

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION.

Hall of..... Chapter, No.....of R. A. M.,.....

.....Mich., 19....

M.....

You are hereby notified that at a regular convocation of..... Chapter, No.....held as above, by a vote of said chapter you were indefinitely suspended from all the rights and benefits of Capitular Masonry, and from membership in said chapter for .....

By order of the High Priest.

[SEAL.] .....Sec'y

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PETITION FOR RESTORATION.

To the High Priest, King, Scribe and Companions of..... ...Chapter, No....., R. A. M.

The subscriber to this petition respectfully represents that he was formerly a member of your aforesaid chapter.

That on or about the.....day of.....A. D. 18....he was tried for unmasonic conduct, upon charges preferred against him in the chapter aforesaid, and that he was duly convicted of said charges; whereupon the sentence of.....was pronounced against him, which sentence is now in full force and effect.

That he ¶ has liquidated his indebtedness to the said chapter, and ¶ is now desirous of being restored to all his former rights and benefits in masonry, and to his membership in aforesaid chapter, and hereby solemnly promises and declares upon his honor, and the obligations heretofore assumed, that if such restoration shall be granted to him, he will ever yield a cheerful obedience to all the laws, rules and regulations, requirements and customs of this honorable fraternity.

Wherefore he respectfully and fraternally prays the said chapter to restore him to said Masonic rights, benefits and membership as aforesaid.

Recommended by

.....

.....

Signed:

....

[Erase between ¶ ¶ if not suspended for N. P. D.]

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DATE OF ROYAL ARCH DOCUMENTS.

Each of the systems of Masonry has a date peculiar to itself, and which, as referring to some important event in its history, is affixed to its official documents. Thus the epoch of the creation of light in the beginning of the world, according to the Mosaic cosmogony, has been assumed, for a symbolical reason, as the era of Ancient Craft Masonry, and hence all documents connected with the first three degrees are dated from this period, which date is found by adding 4,000 to the vulgar era, and is called in the year of light, or Anno Lucis, usually abbreviated A. L.—thus the present year, 1900, in a masonic document of the symbolic degrees, would be designatad as A. L. 5900.

Royal Arch Masons use this date also, but in addition to it they commence their peculiar era with the year in which the building of the second temple was begun, at which time their traditions inform them that a discovery important to the Craft was made. They call their era the year of the discovery, or Anno Inventionis, sometimes abbreviated A. I. or A. Inv. The second temple was commenced 530 years before Christ, and hence the Royal Arch date is found by adding that number of years to the Christian era. Thus the present year, 1900, in a Royal Arch document, would be designated as Anno Inventionis 2430, and, combining the two masonic eras, such a document would properly be designated thus: "Anno Lucis 5900, and Anno Inventionis 2430; or, in the Year of Light 5900, and of the Discovery 2430.

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ABBREVIATIONS USED.

G. C., Grand Chapter; G. H. P., Grand High Priest; Sub., Subordinate; Dis., Dispensation; D. G. H. P., Deputy Grand High Priest; G. S., Grand Secretary.

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SUPPLEMENT

FORMS FOR RECORDING MINUTES OF CHAPTER MEETINGS.

FORM I. REGULAR CONVOCATIONS.

A regular convocation of.....Chapter, No.....was held at Masonic Hall.....evening,.....A. I. 24....

Present, Companion..... .....H. P.
" .....K.
" .....S.
" .....Treas.
" .....Sec'y.
" ....C. H.
" .....P. S.
" .....R. A. C.
" .....M. 3rd V.
" .....M. 2nd V.
" .....M. 1st V.
" .....Sentinel.

Also Companions.....

A chapter of R. A. M. was opened in due form.

The minutes of the last regular and intervening special convocations were read and approved.

The petition of Brother..... .....for the degrees conferred in the chapter, accompanied with a fee of.....dollars, recommended by Companions A. B. and C. D., was received and referred to Companions E. F., G. H. and I. J.

The petition of Comp. B. A., accompanied by a dimit from..... Chapter, No.....located at.....New York, and a certificate from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of that state, together with a fee of.....dollars, recommended by Companions D. C. and F. E., was received and referred to Companions H. G., L. K. and J. I.

The Committee upon the Petition of Bro. John Karp, for the degrees, submitted their report and were discharged.

The Committee upon the Petition of Bro. Peter Oakes submitted their report and were discharged.

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The ballot was then passed to confer the degrees upon Bro. John Karp, found clear, and he was declared elected.

The ballot was then passed to confer the degrees upon Bro. Peter Oakes, found not clear, and he was declared rejected.

Comp. C. D. presented a communication from Bro. Oakes asking leave to withdraw the application; but, objection being made, leave was refused.

The petition of Bro. A. D., for the degrees, representing that he had been rejected in Monroe Chapter, No. 1, located at Detroit, recommended by Comp's. F. L. and J. H., and accompanied by a fee of.....dollars, was received and the Secretary was ordered to communicate with Monroe Chapter, requesting them to release jurisdidtion in favor of this chapter.

A communication was received from.....Chapter, No.....of Grand Rapids requesting this chapter to confer the degrees upon Bro. E. D.; and, on motion, the Secretary was instructed to notify said chapter that this chapter would cheerfully comply with the request.

A petition was received from Bro. L. F., representing that he had received the M. M. M. degree in.....Chapter, No.....located at..... .....since which he had removed to the jurisdiction of this chapter, and asking that he might receive the remaining degrees in this chapter, and, upon reception of the degrees, become a member of this chapter. The petition was recommended by Comp's. C. D. and E. F., and was accompanioned by a fee of.....dollars.

On motion the Secretary was directed to communicate with ..... Chapter, requesting a release of jurisdiction in favor of this chapter

A communication was received from.....Chapter, No....., notifying this chapter of the rejection by that chapter, of Bro. S. T., and of the suspensions for non-payment of dues, of Comp's L. A., S. R., R. L., and H. P.

The communication was received, and names ordered placed on Black Book.

The matter of the charges pending against Comp. John Hay was then taken up, and, it appearing that service of summons to appear, and a copy of the charges had been personally made (or otherwise, as the case may be) upon Comp. John Hay and said companion not being present in person or by counsel, the High Priest ordered a plea of not guilty to be entered, and appointed Comp. James Knox as counsel for the accused. The testimony was then taken in open chapter and reduced to writing.

The High Priest then requested all visiting companions present, the accused and the accuser with their counsel, to retire, which they did.

The ballot was then passed upon the question, "Is the accused guilty or not guilty, under the specification and charges?" with the following result:

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Whole number present, 28; guilty (black balls,) 27: not guilty (white balls) 1.

The High Priest then declared Comp. John Hay guilty as charged.

The ballot was then passed upon question of the penalty: first, upon the question of expulsion, with the following result:

Whole number present, 28; expulsion, 20, against 8.

The High Priest, after admitting the accuser and counsel, declared Comp. John Hay expelled from all the rights and benefits of Capitular Masonry.

A petition for restoration was received from Companion..... who was suspended by this chapter in 1876, for non-payment of dues, accompanied by the sum of $12, which petition was referred to Companions C. D., F. E. and G. H., with instructions to report at the next regular convocation.

The High Priest then ordered the Scribe to present charges against Comp. S. A. for non-payment of dues, at the next regular convocation.

The following charges were then presented by Comp. A. B. against Comp. C. D.:

(*Insert charges in full.*)

The charges were read, and the High Priest ordered the Secretary to serve a copy of said charges upon the accused, together with a summons to appear and answer thereto at the next regular convocation of this chapter.

The Secretary then presented the following as his annual report, which, upon motion, was referred to the Finance Committee:

(*Insert report.*)

The Treasurer then presented the following as his annnal report, which, upon motion, was referred to the Finance Committee:

(*Insert report.*)

The chapter then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the following result: Whole number of votes cast for High Priest, 27, of which Comp. E. M. received 22, Comp. A. Y. received 3, and Comp. W. S. received 2.

The High Priest then declared Comp. E. M. elected High Priest for the ensuing masonic year.

(*And so as to each officer.*)

On motion, a warrant for the sum of $15 was ordered drawn, in favor of the High Priest, for the relief of Companion.....

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The following companions paid dues: A. B. $2, C. D. $2, E. F. $2, G. H. $2, I. J. $2; total, $10.

No further business appearing, the chapter was then closed in due form.

.....Secretary.

Approved,

.....H. P.

FORM 2. SPECIAL CONVOCATIONS.

A special convocation of.....Chapter, No.....was held at Masonic Hall.....evening.....A. I. 24.....

Present (*as in Form 1.*)

The chapter was opened on Past Master degree, in due form.

Bro. C. L. was announced as in waiting to receive this degree.

The chapter was then closed in the P. M. degree, and opened in the M. M. M. degree.

Bro. C. L. was admitted, examined as to his proficiency in this degree, and retired.

The chapter was then closed in the M. M. M. degree, and opened in the P. M. degree.

Bro. C. L. was then prepared, admitted, and presided as Master in the chair, paying a fee of..... dollars therefor.

No further business appearing the chapter was closed in due form.

.....Secretary

Approved,

....H. P.

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